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THE NEWSPAPER FOR MARGATE, RAMSGATE, BROADSTAIRS AND DISTRICT

Issue No 23  
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February 13, 2008

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Picture: IMMI PHOTOGRAPHY



## OUR 'ENRY COMES TO TOWN

Boxing legend Sir Henry Cooper received a standing ovation at the Winter Gardens in Margate on Friday night. The heavyweight ring king was guest of honour at a charity boxing night held by Ramsgate Amateur Boxing Club and the Rotary Club of Thanet.

Twelve bouts in the squared circle followed a meal, auction and raffle. More than £4,300 was raised for the boxing club, with large sums also heading in the direction of Demelza House children's hospice near Sittingbourne and the anti-poverty charity Kingfisher Trust. The Rotary Club's John Reid said: "The event broke all previous records and I'd like to thank Sir Henry for freely giving up his time."

Pictured with Sir Henry are Ryan Bunce, of Ramsgate Boxing Club (left), and his ring opponent Sahaid Khan, from Guildford.

■ BY TOM BETTS

CYBERSPACE is becoming the scene of an increasingly bitter battle of the blogs.

On Monday, Thanet councillor Simon Moores, author of the popular Thanet Life weblog, said he was suspending activity on his site.

He is now at the point of quitting altogether after attempts to "discredit his character" started to affect his family life.

The Tory councillor is frustrated by gossip and rumour about him, perpetuated, he claims, by "the left-wing element in Thanet".

His children have been abused at school, he says, while there have been accusations about his character and business activities banded about online.

Dr Moores says the slurs, many from rival bloggers, are now affecting his abilities as a councillor, while being potentially damaging to his business interests.

He said: "I can handle criticism, but I won't accept circumstances where my family are involved."

"I've a reputation that has taken 20 years to build up, but now if you search my name a whole host of unsavoury allegations crop up which suggest I'm guilty of this or guilty of that."

The owner of AirAds, the aerial advertising firm, has run his blog since October 2003.

If the Thanet Life site is removed, five years worth of postings, a thousand aerial photographs of the area and archives of local history will be lost, says Dr Moores.



SLURS: Simon Moores

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

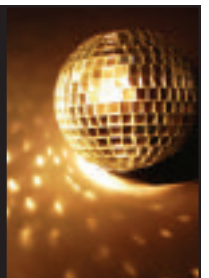


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**STRIKE LOOMS:** Residents are being urged not to put out bins on certain dates

# Get ready for a rubbish build-up as strike looms

■ BY TOM BETTS

A THREATENED series of four one-day strikes could affect thousands of residents.

Refuse collections will not take place on February 13, 21, 29 and March 30, if GMB members employed by the council's waste and recycling teams do not turn up for work.

Residents are facing having a backlog of rubbish as waste and recycling collections come to a halt and street cleaning will also cease.

The GMB union, which represents a number of council employees in the waste and recycling team, has called the strikes in a dispute over union recognition for pay bargaining.

Meanwhile, Thanet council has called in the conciliation service ACAS to intervene and solve the dispute without strikes taking place.

The council says it has been talking to both the GMB and also Unison, which is recognised for its bargaining over staff pay and conditions, ever since it became aware of the issue.

The council has been advised that the ballot covered 81 members of the GMB, all employed in waste and recycling.

Residents are being advised not to put anything out for collection on the strike days, as there is unlikely to be any collection of household waste or recyclable materials.

If you are on a black bag collection,

you are advised to keep your waste until the following week and then put it out as normal on the usual day of collection.

Those in the wheeled bin scheme are being asked to put both bins out for collection the following week on their usual day of collection. Priority will be given to emptying the black-lidded waste bins during that collection.

Cllr Roger Latchford, deputy leader of Thanet council, said: "We're committed to trying to resolve this dispute without the need for industrial action and we're disappointed that the possibility of strike action is looming for our residents, as it will affect one of the council's key frontline services."

"I'd like to make it clear that the council has not refused to recognise the GMB."

"If the council agrees to this demand from the GMB, then it could find itself in dispute with Unison, which currently has the sole right to negotiate over pay and conditions."

"We would like to apologise to residents for the inconvenience that this action by the GMB will undoubtedly cause, if it goes ahead."

"We will do everything we can to minimise disruption to the services affected, but it is likely that there will be no street cleaning or refuse collections on these dates if the action goes ahead."

"This is why the council is doing all it can to resolve this. Our message to residents is not to put anything out for collection on a strike day."

## Customers pay a high price for wind farms

THE subsidy system which funds wind farms such as the London Array off Margate is one of the most expensive in Europe, according to research.

The European Commission has discovered that only Italy's system – which is similar to the 'renewables obligation' in the UK – gives eco-friendly electricity-generating companies a greater expected profit.

The subsidies themselves come not from Government funds – but from consumers who pay electricity bills.

It is expected the cost will be an additional £1 billion for customers in 2010 – rising to three times that amount by 2020.

But while costs rise, industry insiders say the amount of power generated by such schemes is rising at a much slower rate.

Wind farm supporters say local authorities and planners are responsible as they slow down construction schemes.

But the lack of new projects – coupled with the subsidies – mean the main people to benefit are the renewable energy companies themselves as they are getting cash and not spending it.

Currently about £10 per year of each household bill goes to support the renewable energy sector.

Peter Atherton, head utilities analyst at Citi Investment Research, said: "The consumer pays. It's a regressive tax on the poor. It's a bonanza. Anyone who can get their nose in the trough is trying to."

European Union leaders have agreed on a binding target of 20 per cent of EU energy consumption to come from renewable sources by 2020.

This target is one in a package of measures to tackle climate change.

## 'Publicity stunt'

FROM FRONT PAGE

He said: "When I started the blog I saw a great potential to raise the profile of local democracy, but it's starting to leave an unpleasant taste in the mouth."

"A small group of individuals has hijacked, twisted and subverted it. I really don't know why there is such a strong campaign to try to discredit me. All I want to do is try to represent the ward to the best of my ability."

Some bloggers claim Dr Moore's move is a publicity stunt.

"Eastcliff Richard" told Yourthanet: "He's resigned before, so I expect that after all the messages of sympathy, and publicity, he'll find some way to come back from the dead."

"It's happened to me in the past. You get fed up, bored, tired of all the insults and flounce off. After a bit of a rest, you think 'Oh well, might as well have another go'."

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# Royal music master performs at hotel

## Diners enjoy impromptu performance

■ BY TOM BETTS

GUESTS at the Walpole Bay Hotel in Cliftonville have been treated to an off-the-cuff performance from a musical maestro.

Sir Peter Maxwell Davies, the Master of the Queen's Music and a prolific composer, joined the hotel's resident pianist of 13 years, Nick Capocci, for a session on the grand piano during the Sunday lunch serving.

Nick was elated to play in such esteemed company, especially as he used to attend Sir Peter's lectures as a student in the 1970s.

The hotel's proprietor, Jane Bishop, said: "It was phenomenal and all quite impromptu."

"I think the lunch guests were very surprised by it all, and the pair seemed to strike up a good rapport and had a great conversation."

She added: "We see Sir Peter a couple of times a year. He stays in Thanet as he likes the sea



**MAESTRO:** Sir Peter Maxwell Davies with Nick Capocci pictured in the dining room of the Walpole Bay Hotel

air, but he never usually takes lunch here and has certainly never played for us before."

To add to the spectacle, the Scary Lemon Productions youth theatre group, who had been rehearsing in the hotel ballroom, chipped in with a recital of Seasons from the musical Rent.

Jane went on: "We had a few strange looks when a load of teenagers turned up in hoodies and trainers, but they performed brilliantly."

She added: "Sir Peter was actually quite impressed by the talent that Thanet has to offer, which is encouraging to hear."

"He's a very nice man, and quite quiet and

retiring for someone who has achieved so much. It's like I always say, you never know what's going to happen in the Walpole dining room. Every day is an adventure here."

Jane also revealed that the composer may yet hold a musical soirée in the future to help raise funds for the hotel pianola, which needs repairs costing some £1,000.

- The Master of the Queen's Music is an honorary position founded in 1626 and is conferred by the monarch on a musician of distinction, usually a composer. It is regarded as the musical equivalent of the Poet Laureate.

## MP offers new school option

THANET South MP Dr Steve Ladyman has called for a rethink on school mergers that will affect thousands of children.

He is asking the county council to re-examine the merger of Ramsgate single-sex high schools Hereson and Ellington and to look at the future of Clarendon House and Chatham House, which could be merged on the Chatham House site.

Commenting on the Ellington-Hereson merger, Dr Ladyman said: "Despite the Government's instructions, KCC is intending to press ahead with the merger, even though it has no local support."

"Just as bad, it now seems to think that the only way forward is to merge the two grammar schools on the Chatham House site."

Dr Ladyman is pushing the idea of a federation campus, which would see all four schools on a campus in Pysons Road.

The plan would be for all the schools to retain their independent ethos while using some of the same facilities.

He said: "There would be two grammars and two high schools who could still operate as single-sex high schools."

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It might have felt like spring, but Pegwell's wildlife isn't fooled

## Westwood road is on the way

WORK on a new road aimed at relieving the traffic build-up in Westwood has begun.

Thanet's Conservatives broke ground to celebrate the construction of the county council and Thanet council venture at New Haine Road last week, firing off a broadside at the previous Labour administration and the Government after the main shovel work.

Council leader Sandy Ezekiel said: "This is about two Conservative councils working together."

"There's not a penny of Westminster money going into this. It's a victory for innovation and building a business-friendly environment for jobs in our area."

The scheme is the first phase of five road upgrades for the area surrounding Westwood.

Thanet North MP Roger Gale said: "Thanet district and Kent county are doing their level best to get infrastructure in place before development takes place."

"The task would have been a whole lot easier, though, if the last Labour council, which likes to take credit for Westwood Cross, had paid a little attention to roads and railways when agreeing the plans."

## Potato producers have an eye for growing market

THE potato industry has really taken root in Thanet.

A partnership between a grower and packager is proving a winner with the isle's consumers, with the vegetables also selling well at Tesco.

Shoppers keen for a local produce on their plate are snapping up potatoes grown in Birchington and later packaged in St Nicholas at Wade.

The successful partnership between Quex Park Estates and St Nicholas Court Farm is seeing the potatoes fly out of the supermarket's stores.

Tesco has been selling the vegetables in its Kent branches for a year now and the arrangement has flourished.

Nick Tapp, St Nicholas Court Farm's managing director, said: "We are one of the few places who can really boast that our produce is genuinely local."

"They are grown just a few miles away in Birchington, packaged here and then sold in the area's Tesco

stores, so they never leave Kent."

The range of local potatoes, which includes King Edwards, Desires, Maris Pipers, white potatoes, baking potatoes and new potatoes, is proving so popular that the packagers are now looking to extend the range and supply more stores.

Anthony Curwen, managing director of Quex Park Estates, said: "It is very unusual to have the potatoes grown, sold and packaged in the same county."

This operation is really putting some volume into the local market and that is important."

The potatoes are also sold at the new Quex Barn farm shop in Birchington, which opened in November.

Mr Curwen said: "It's a small outlet but has been going very well so far. In terms of the operation at the barn it could be called a micro outlet where we really are supplying local people with local food."

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## Vandal earns prison threat

A MAN learnt an expensive lesson when he kicked a plate-glass window in King Street, Ramsgate.

Benjamin Wood, 20, will have to fork out £500 after he admitted criminal damage at Margate court.

Teresa Ruiz, prosecuting, said Wood was with a group of men near a newsagents when the 9ft x 7ft window was smashed.

The owner of the shop was just leaving when he heard the noise and called police. They questioned the youths and Wood admitted he kicked the window.

Wood is in the middle of a two-year supervision order for criminal damage.

He was ordered to complete 175 hours' community service and ordered to pay £60 costs on top of the compensation.

Chairman of the bench Dennis Talbot said: "Don't come back here again because you know where you will be going next time – prison."

## Air ambulance for A28 smash

THE Kent Air Ambulance was called to Westgate on Sunday.

The helicopter flew to a traffic accident on the A28 at about 12.30pm.

Its paramedics helped doctors treat three injured people after landing in a field near the incident.

Fire crews used cutting equipment to free one person from a Volvo.

One elderly man suffered neck injuries, and two other people, one male and one female, were also taken to the QEQM hospital for treatment.

A man is due to be interviewed under caution by the police.

All were transported from the scene by road ambulance.

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Is Margate ugly? Residents respond to Bob Geldof's remarks

# The soaring cost of town hall's middle managers

THE number of staff earning £50,000 or more has burgeoned at Thanet council during the last 10 years.

The number of middle managers earning big money rose from zero in 1997 to 19 in 2007. Pressure group the Taxpayers' Alliance, which compiled a report into rising salaries, has criticised council officers' hefty pay packets.

Matthew Elliott, Taxpayers' Alliance chief executive, said the number of middle managers should be seen in relation to an increase in average council tax payments for band D properties from £646 to £1,248.

Mr Elliott said: "With council tax doubling in the past decade, it's extremely disappointing that town halls have chosen to hire a new class of middle managers, many of whom are being paid more than MPs."

Thanet council's 19 officers on £50,000 or above cost the authority a hefty £1,365,000 in 2007.

BY TOM BETTS

That works out at £10.61 per person each year in terms of council tax.

The Audit Commission this week confirmed that more than nine out of 10 councils were either meeting or exceeding value-for-money requirements.

Thanet council leader Sandy Ezekiel said: "We've recruited the best-quality staff available market over recent years to improve Thanet's performance and that means paying a wage in line with the market."

"This council has made significant improvements over the last year or so and a lot of that is down to our staff and management."

"We've moved from a 'weak' to a 'fair' council, seen one of the biggest increases in the country in our customer satisfaction levels, and have made major improvements in key areas, such as street cleaning and recycling."

Richard Nicholson, leader of the Labour group on Thanet council, said: "I have watched

the huge growth in the salary bill, which has meant huge rises in council tax coupled with rising charges and reduced services."

"Each year I demand the wage bill is brought down and each year the Tory administration ignores me."

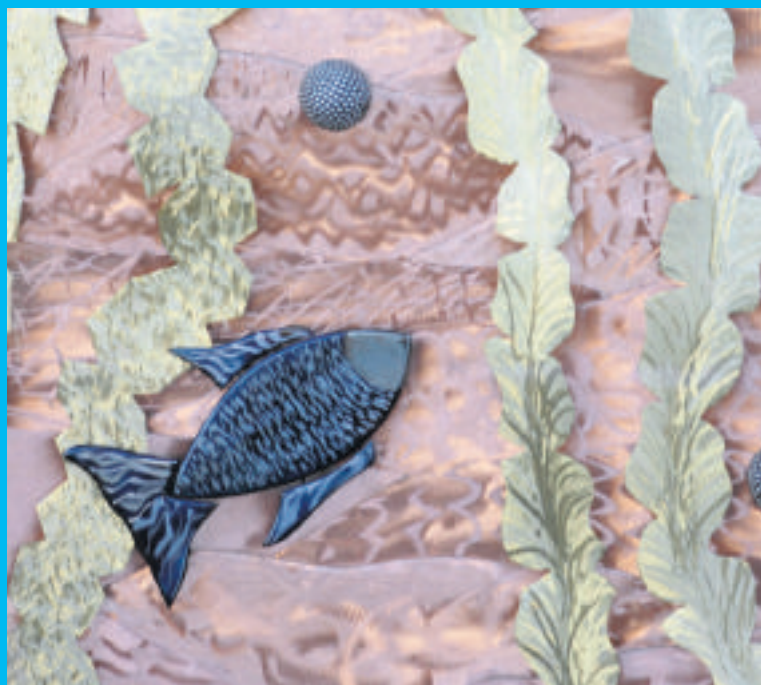
"Next year – 2008/09 – the rise in the salary bill will be more than £684,000 to residents, this alone if paid solely by the council tax would mean an increase of nearly six per cent."

"This will only get worse with predicted further rises for the two following years."

He added: "This is clearly unsustainable, but the Tories seem unable to cope with dealing with this and, like rabbits caught in headlights, are unable to act except by increasing council tax and cutting services."

"As to Cllr Ezekiel's assertion of recruiting the best, that I have little argument with, but why then are service levels only flat and, in one case, financial management, falling?"

"No matter how good the staff, one day this will be unaffordable and hopefully Thanet will have a council to act in the interests of all."



## SEA SCENE AT THE STATION

A new sculpture will greet travellers when they arrive at Margate train station.

A six-foot tall seascape entitled The Sea was created in workshops by artist Ian Da Silva as part of the Thanet Coast Project Seaart 2007 exhibition.

Young people who attended the programme assisted the artist in creating the piece, which has a poem on the back and depicts marine life.

Thanet Coast Project education officer Naomi Biggs said: "This was a great project, bringing together so many different people and organisations."

"It was wonderful to be able to work with each other on such a creative project, particularly as it has been such a positive community piece for Margate."

"It is now the first thing that people will see as they come into the town by train and helps to highlight the changing face of Margate."

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EXHIBITION: The Turner Contemporary Project Space will open with work from the Arts Council Collection

# New gallery opens with bid for Yoko

TURNER CONTEMPORARY chiefs have unveiled plans for their new exhibition space.

The gallery will move into the heart of Margate later this month when the old Marks and Spencer building in the High Street becomes the Turner Contemporary Project Space.

It will be the largest contemporary art space in Kent and host a broader range of work than had been previously available at the smaller Droit House by Margate's stone pier, which will also remain open.

The extra space will play host to installations, sculptures and other modern artwork.

A programme of exhibitions has been planned until May 2009 as part of the 18-month venture.

Curator Sarah Martin revealed that work from many acclaimed artists will be on show.

She said: "Having more space will give us much more flexibility."

Bosses expect the new premises to be a hit, hoping it will raise the area's artistic profile while the long-awaited Turner Centre is built.

Susan Sheddin, the audience development officer, also announced plans to involve the community much more.

People will get more opportunities to discuss,

BY TOM BETTS

view and participate in the gallery's projects. She said: "There will be a far greater depth of events and activities than we could put on before. We want to entice people who may not have visited galleries like this. It's an exciting time for art in the South East."

Yoko Ono is on the wish list for 2008.

She is involved with the Far West project, which will come to the venue in September and, although representatives are yet to speak to her, they say they will look into the possibility of asking her to the isle.

The space will open to the public on Thursday, February 28, with the Nature Is A Workshop exhibition.

It features work from the Arts Council collection with artists such as Toby Ziegler, Mike Nelson and John Isaacs.

Marketing director John Haywood is hoping the number of people who visit the space will exceed 60,000 over the course of a year.

He said: "We hope our location and presence in the High Street will bring more people in. Its success will of course depend on people paying a visit and getting involved."

For the full programme, visit [www.turnercontemporary.org/whatson](http://www.turnercontemporary.org/whatson).

## Project Space gets ready for the public

TURNER CONTEMPORARY is moving into its new home in just a few weeks.

Dubbed the Turner Contemporary Project Space, 1,200 square metres of floor space in the old Marks and Spencer building means larger exhibitions can be held in Margate.

A range of shows has already been planned, with the wild, the wonderful and the downright weird all in the pipeline.

Admission to the gallery space will be free for an 18-month period while the main gallery is constructed.

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## yourthanet NEWS IN BRIEF

### Scrap EU fish quota rules, demands party leader

THE leader of the UK Independence Party has called for EU fish quota laws to be repealed.

In November, Yourthanet revealed that fishermen setting sail from Ramsgate sometimes have to throw back as many 500 cod, even though they are dead.

Speaking exclusively to this newspaper, MEP Nigel Farage said: "The 2008 Channel cod quota is seven per cent for the English fleet but 78 per cent for the French fleet. We must take back our territorial waters and we must put in place proper fish conservation."

"Kent's fishing industry is almost gone now. The ports were once full of fishing boats, but now there are hardly any left. Go to Ramsgate or to Whitstable and take a look around, there's hardly anyone left now."

Up to 60 per cent of cod are thrown back, with many boats lying idle for days on end.

Mr Farage, a former European Parliament fisheries committee member, added: "What we have done is give away the greatest renewable resource this country owns. There is no issue I feel more strongly about."

### Vodka drinker is bound over to keep the peace

A DRUNKEN man has been bound over to keep the peace for a year by magistrates.

Margate court heard that 40-year-old Pole Joseph Horvath, of Dane Road, Margate, threatened members of his family after drinking several bottles of vodka during a 24-hour drinking spree.

He was told that if he keeps out of trouble he won't be punished.

However, if he appears in court in the next 12 months he will forfeit cash.

### Supermarket wants to harness wind power

TESCO in Ramsgate has applied for planning permission to put up two wind turbines in its car park.

The 10.5-metre high structures – which are new-generation 6Kw turbines – will be used to help generate energy for the store in Manston Road.

The application was submitted to Thanet council at the end of last month.

A spokesman for the supermarket said: "We are trying to do our bit to reduce our energy consumption – we also want to try to reduce our carbon footprint."

It is claimed that, between them, the turbines will produce energy equivalent to that needed to power six houses.

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**WHAT'S ON AT THE WINTER GARDENS**

Every Monday Line Dancing 7.00pm - 9.30pm. Every Tuesday Tea Dance with Colin Jay and his music 2.15pm - 4.30pm

FEBRUARY 2008	APRIL 2008	Saturday 11th
Friday 29th 2 Outspoken presents Something Kinda Oooh 2 7.30pm	Saturday 12th at 8pm Guy & Mavis presents Music For Dancing	Oh Boy It's The Non Stop 60's 7.30pm
<b>MARCH 2008</b> Sunday 16th Gordon Clarkson presents Simple Simon Party Showtime 2.30pm	Saturday 19th Disco Inferno 9.00pm Friday 25th & Saturday 26th at 2.30pm & 7.30pm	One Night of Queen 7.30pm
Saturday 21st & Sunday 22nd Thanet Beer Festival	Sunday 27th Girings Spring Show 'Club Showtime'	Vienna Festival Ballet presents Sleeping Beauty 5.00pm
Saturday 29th Off The Wall - The Spirit of Pink Floyd 7.30pm	<b>MAY 2008</b> Sunday 4th Rock for Africa Concert 7.30pm	Tuesday 27th-Saturday 31st MOS presents Carousel <b>JUNE 2008</b> Sunday 1st T-Rex 7.30pm
		Tuesday 3rd David Essex 7.30pm
		Sunday 29th Colin Fry (medium) 7.30pm

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# CALLING ALL MUMS... BLUEWATER NEEDS YOU!

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Finding the right gift for Mother's Day can be a challenge. In fact, according to our research, it is more difficult to find the right gift for Mother's Day than it is for Christmas or Mum's Birthday! All this can mean that poor old Mum gets the same thing year after year.

Here at Bluewater we want all Mums to get the perfect present and all kids to feel that they have got the best gift advice. Our research also showed us that most people would rather get advice on what to buy their Mum from another Mum - as well as any other nuggets of wisdom. It was this that inspired us to create the *Mum's Army*.

## WE NEED YOU

Now we are appealing for your help. If you are a Mum, we would love to make you one of our 'new recruits'. All we need is for you to let us know what your ideal Mother's Day gift would be. We will then use this information to pass onto shoppers to help them make the best choice this Mother's Day.

We would like to assemble the *Mum's Army* for a photoshoot at Bluewater on the 26th February and would love for you to come down and be part of the fun. You will be issued with a *Mum's Army* T-shirt and given a Mum's Army battalion: Yummy Mummy, Modern Mama, Mother Hen or Earth Mother!

**As a thank you, all Mums who submit a suggestion and come down to Bluewater on the morning of the 26th February will receive a £25 voucher to buy their ideal Mother's Day gift, courtesy of Bluewater.\***

\*One hundred Mums will be selected to take part in the *Mums Army*. Only these 100 Mums will be eligible for the free gift.



## SIGN UP NOW!

We want Mums to sign up by 20 February, either by calling the Mum's hotline on 020 7908 6597 or emailing [mumsarmy@lexispr.com](mailto:mumsarmy@lexispr.com), to become one of Bluewater's official *Mum's Army* recruits.

Please give us your name, address, contact number and ideal Mother's Day gift. We will be in touch regarding the photoshoot on Tuesday 26 February.

**Bluewater is the perfect place to shop for the ideal Mother's Day gift.**

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**Help make Mother's Day better for Mums and kids - sign up to the Bluewater *Mum's Army* NOW!**

## Bluewater Mum's Gift Entrance Form

Pre-register to take part in the Bluewater Mum's Army by filling out the details below and sending to:  
Mum's Army Recruitment Drive, Lexis PR, 8 Bolsover Street, London W1W6AB

Your name: ..... How many children do you have? .....

Address: .....

..... Town: ..... Postcode: .....

Tel: ..... Mobile: .....

Best time to contact you: ☐ Morning ☐ Midday ☐ Afternoon ☐ Evening

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Women participating in the Mum's Army must be genuine mothers. Gifts will not be honoured if you are not a mother. 2. Mothers must attend the photoshoot on the 26th February 2008 in order to qualify for the free gift. 3. Mothers must adhere to the rules of the Mum's Army as outlined on the day. Failure to do so will result in participants being disqualified from the event. 4. All competitors must complete a non disclosure form prior to entering the Mum's Army. 5. Gifts have no cash alternative. 6. All entrants must be over the age of 18. 7. The Mum's Army will assemble on 26th February at Bluewater. Please note the T&C's relate to the competition only and normal Bluewater T&C's also apply.

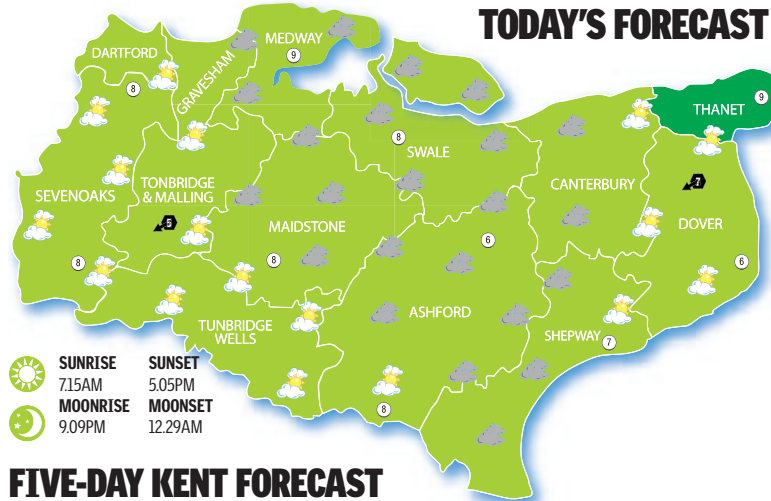


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## WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	4:58pm	5.5m
	Sunday	5:47pm	5.2m
Dover	Saturday	3:07pm	6.1m
	Sunday	4:04pm	5.8m
Dungeness	Saturday	3:09pm	7.2m
	Sunday	4:05pm	6.6m
Ramsgate	Saturday	3:37pm	4.7m
	Sunday	4:34pm	4.4m
Sheerness	Saturday	4:47pm	5.3m
	Sunday	5:36pm	5.0m
Whitstable	Saturday	4:41pm	4.9m
	Sunday	5:31pm	4.6m

## AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	13°C	Madrid	12°C
Athens	9°C	New York	6°C
Barcelona	12°C	Paris	10°C
Beijing	-3°C	Rome	10°C
Bombay	27°C	Sydney	24°C
Cape Town	21°C	Tenerife	20°C
Cardiff	8°C	Tokyo	9°C
Gibraltar	15°C	Vancouver	9°C
Hong Kong	9°C	Warsaw	2°C
Las Palmas	20°C	Wellington	23°C

## Funds to continue for deprived wards

MORE money is being pumped into two of the Isle's most deprived areas.

The Margate Central and Cliftonville West wards will benefit from two more years of continued Government funding of almost £700,000, the money being handed to the Safer Stronger Communities Fund.

Launched in April 2005, the programme has so far funded 72 different projects in the two wards.

Successful applications for cash have come from a range of clubs, groups, public sector organisations and individuals.

Paul Trumble, chairman of the SSCF programme board, said: "The SSCF programme is coming to the end of the second year of funding and the news that we are to get the third and fourth years' funding is great for local people and a boost for two of the most deprived areas in Thanet."

## Bollywood's in town

TWO days of Bollywood-themed celebrations will mark the official opening of Thanet council's Gateway Plus project.

Music, storytelling workshops, juggling and drumming are among the events at the site at the library building in Cecil Square, Margate, on Friday and Saturday.

It coincides with a Bollywood exhibition being held at the Gateway building.

Full details of the events are available by phoning the council on 01843 577000.

## FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	8°C	7°C	7°C	6°C	6°C	Gravesend	9°C	7°C	6°C	6°C	9°C
Canterbury	7°C	7°C	6°C	5°C	7°C	Maidstone	9°C	7°C	5°C	6°C	9°C
Chatham	7°C	6°C	5°C	5°C	6°C	Ramsgate	7°C	7°C	6°C	5°C	7°C
Dartford	9°C	7°C	6°C	6°C	9°C	Rochester	7°C	6°C	5°C	5°C	6°C
Dover	8°C	5°C	5°C	5°C	7°C	Sevenoaks	8°C	5°C	4°C	4°C	6°C
Faversham	7°C	6°C	5°C	5°C	6°C	Sittingbourne	7°C	6°C	5°C	5°C	6°C
Folkestone	8°C	5°C	5°C	5°C	7°C	Tonbridge	9°C	6°C	6°C	6°C	8°C
Gillingham	7°C	6°C	5°C	5°C	6°C	Tun Wells	9°C	6°C	6°C	6°C	8°C

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# yourlocalinterview

## QUESTION & ANSWER

### LAURA SANDYS



**Q** Who or what brings you to Thanet, Laura?

**A** I was selected as the Conservative Parliamentary Candidate for the Thanet South constituency that goes from Cliftonville down to Sandwich, and have been living in Thanet ever since. I also have historical roots in the area as a relative of mine was MP for Sandwich, so maybe it feels like the Sandys are coming home.

**Q** Whereabouts in Thanet do you spend most of your time?

**A** I live in Ramsgate with my husband Randolph Kent but spend most of my time out and about meeting voluntary groups, business organisations and charities around Thanet. I am a governor of a local school so have focused a lot on education in the area and am also a big advocate of the Citizens Advice Bureau. I am keen to meet as many people as possible, asking them their views about Thanet and the country, listening and learning from people on the front line and knocking on doors. So don't be scared if a blonde comes to your door one of these days.

**Q** Did you grow up here?

**A** I grew up in London and worked with my father politically on the housing estates in south London. I have lived in many places including abroad, but I never felt that anywhere was as much a home as Thanet is for both of us.

**Q** What do you like about Thanet?

**A** It is an extraordinary place with the most beautiful coastline in the country. My favourite times of the day are sunrise and sunset, where the light in Thanet is like no other – sharp and clear. Ramsgate has one of the most perfect harbours, and the view from the harbour arm as you look back at Ramsgate shows what great architecture we are privileged to have. Broadstairs, nationally recognised as one of the best seaside resorts in Britain, is a treasure – but we must keep it that way.

**Q** Are there any aspects of the area you dislike?

**A** I am very concerned about the many areas of deprivation that we have, particularly in Ramsgate. I have spent time with residents in Newington and know that they want to claim back their community but need to be given the policing and economic uplift to achieve a safer, more prosperous estate. Debt is rocketing up in the area and we must provide support to help people get out of debt. It is also important that we resist central government imposing too much additional housing without the jobs to go with the homes. Our Green Wedge is crucial to maintaining the character of this beautiful area.

**Q** What can you do to help improve Thanet's fortunes?

**A** I am working hard with the Thanet Skills Centre helping young people find their voca-

tion; I am developing new policies to help reduce bureaucracy for the police; I'm campaigning for greater support for carers and I am a big advocate of small business – the lifeblood of this economy. I would like to play my part in building better skills for our young people, attracting new jobs to the area and supporting the creation of more small businesses.

**Q** What do you like to do in your spare time?

**A** What spare time? When I do get some time off I like to walk along the beaches with Randolph. This summer we walked from Ramsgate to Margate along the beaches even through the driving rain.

**Q** Tell me your views on the future for the area

**A** Thanet has huge potential and feels as if it is about to turn a corner. However, we have challenges and I am concerned that we ensure that any new development is done sensitively, that we attract employment and that we deliver a strong educational system to our young and an excellent health service to the elderly.

**Q** What changes would you like to see in the next few years?

**A** I hope that London Array wind farms invest in Thanet, that we get the long-promised fast rail link to London, and that Government stops imposing housing targets on us.

**QA** Laura Sandys, Conservative Parliamentary Candidate for Thanet South, talks to **Tom Betts** about what brought her to Thanet and how she feels about the part of the country that she now calls home

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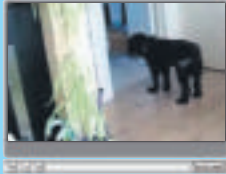
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Handball may not be as popular as football or cricket, but it's a growing sport. Meet the Ashford Tanners handball team.



Scamp the dog had a tumour that weighed 6lb. Owner Hazel Stewart talks about his miracle survival.



Children at Dickens World celebrated the 197th birthday of Kent's favourite literary genius, Charles Dickens.



Stephen Salisbury, the Dover teacher appointed manager of MCC's tour to Kenya, talks to reporter Marijke Cox.



Campaigner Andrew Parr spoke to Simon Robinson about the latest ASW steelworkers' pensions dispute.

## EDITOR'S CHOICE

You can view all these videos and others from around the county with the click of a mouse at...

[yourkenttv.co.uk](http://yourkenttv.co.uk)

# Join the best party of all

■ BY NICK AMES

MORE than 15,000 free tickets to top visitor attractions across the county offer a Big Day Out for Kent residents next month.

Castles, historic houses, steam railways and many other leisure destinations will showcase the range of entertainment available.

Among those taking part are Godinton House and Gardens, near Ashford, The Canterbury Tales, Dover Castle, Rochester Castle, Port Lympne Wild Animal Park, the National Fruit Collection at Brogdale near Faversham and Ramsgate Maritime Museum.

The free tickets, two per household, will be available from February 29 from the Kent Big Day Out website at [www.visitkent.co.uk](http://www.visitkent.co.uk) and local visitor information centres. And the organisers at VisitKent are urging everyone to book early to avoid disappointment.

### Thousands

Fran Warrington, head of tourism for the county council, said: "Kent's first Big Day Out last year was a tremendous success, with thousands of free tickets booked within a few hours of the website going live.

"This year's Big Day Out is going to be even more fun. We have more attractions taking part and 5,000 more free tickets."

County council cabinet member for regeneration Roger Gough said the Big Day Out was an important vehicle for promoting the best the county had to offer to visitors.

He said: "The ethos of this event is to show people the amazing range of places to visit and activities right on our doorsteps.

"If we are on holiday we may well visit a castle or historic house, yet perhaps we neglect those in our own communities.



**BOOK EARLY:** Ramsgate Maritime Museum is one of the many destinations you can visit free this month

"The Big Day Out, on Saturday, March 29, will give people a free opportunity to go and explore the wealth of attractions in Kent.

"Making the people of Kent aware of what's around them is even more crucial as we approach the 2012 London Olympic Games.

"We are predicting large numbers of visitors to Kent and it's important they can be shown or told about all the places to visit."

Tourism is a key industry for the county, contributing more than £1.8 billion to the local economy each year and supporting 49,500 jobs.

Kent's Big Days Out are providing students

keen to follow careers in hospitality and leisure businesses with hands-on experience within the industry.

Students from Mid Kent College in Maidstone and Medway, Canterbury College and Thanet College will be assisting with market research and customer services at many of the attractions.

Their detailed research into last year's Big Day Out revealed that more than 93 per cent of Kent people who took advantage of free tickets rated the attraction they visited as excellent and stated that they would recommend it to friends and family.

## 'Value-for-money' village restaurant is nominated for top food award

A RESTAURANT on the isle has been nominated for a top county food award.

Morton's Fork restaurant and hotel in Minster is one of three nominees to make the shortlist for the Taste of Kent Awards best restaurant category.

Owner Shaun Newstead said he was delighted to hear the news.

He said: "We're absolutely thrilled. We only took over at the restaurant in May 2007, and so just to be nominated is an achievement."

Mr Newstead said the secret behind the family-run restaurant's success was value for money.

He said: "I think we're giving customers good honest food, freshly prepared and cooked. Nothing is frozen or kept hot all day.

"People come in and get a warm welcome. I think the personal touch makes all the difference.

"Being a family business also helps. My wife Liz and I run the business and my wife's eldest son Jamie is the chef."

The 11-category awards are being organised by Produced in Kent and include best butcher, meat producer, pub, farmers' market and food product.

Chairman Richard Long said: "We are absolutely delighted with the level of response we have received for the 2007 Taste of Kent Awards.

"The public is increasingly aware of the importance and quality of local food and drink producers, and none more so than here in Kent.

"We are very lucky to have such a wide range and high level of producers to choose from across the county and the number of nominations we have received is testament to the standard of locally grown and manufactured food and drink in Kent."

Other shortlisters include Biddenden Vineyards in two categories, while Taywell's Farm Shop in Goudhurst is in the running for three awards.

Chapel Down Winery in Tenterden is also in line for a possible three awards.



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# WINTER SAVERS



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Width 42 inches

Available in:

- Cotswold
- Marfil stone
- Portuguese Limestone



**Was £469**

**Winter Sale price £369**

**£100 off**

(Cotswold finish price)

## Cranbourne Surround

Width 44 inches

Available in:

- Jura stone
- Chiltern
- Mocha Beige (as shown)
- Portuguese Limestone



**Was £469**

**Winter Sale price £369**

**£100 off**

(Jura Stone finish price)

## Brompton Suite Including gas or electric fire

56 inch limestone mantel  
High lighted cast iron arch panel  
54 inch solid granite hearth



**Was £799**

**Winter Sale price £699**

**£100 off**

## Flavel Windsor Pebble gas fire

Finish Chrome  
Output 3.3kw



**Was £229**

**Winter Sale Price £189**

**£40 off**

## Edinburgh Cast Iron Suite

36 inches wide  
36 inch solid granite hearth included



**Was £399**

**Winter Sale Price £299**

**£100 off**

## Devon Limestone

49 inches wide with standard opening for a gas or electric fire



**Was £499**

**Winter Sale price £399**

**£100 off**

(Cotswold finish price)

## Dimplex®

### Dimplex Club stove

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- 2kW fan heater



**Internet price £111.99**

### Dimplex Brayford stove

- Compact stove designed to fit in or on a standard fireplace and hearth
- Optiflame® log effect
- 1kW or 2kW fan heat selection
- Black cast effect finish



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### Dimplex Springborne stove

- Compact stove designed to fit in or on a standard fireplace and hearth
- Optiflame® coal effect with real coal
- Opening doors
- 1kW or 2kW fan



**Internet price £89.99**

### Dimplex SP8

- A contemporary flame effect fire designed for wall mounting
- Remote control
- Optiflame® large pebble effect
- Silver finish with contrasting grey
- Fully concealed 2kW fan



**Internet price £289.99**

### Dimplex SP4

- A flame effect for wall mounting
- Remote control
- Silent heating operation
- Optiflame® log effect
- Satin silver effect finish
- Unique "smart" heated glass
- Radiant and convected output of 420 watts



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### Dimplex Horton black

- Fits standard 16" and 18" fireplace openings and all conventional flues
- Chassis allows the fire to be fully inset where flue allows with minimal projection into the room, or can be flat-wall-fixed (semi-inset) with a suitable surround (using spacer provided)\*
- Real coals



**Internet price £199.99**

### Dimplex Cheriton

- Freestanding fire with Optiflame® effect and real coals
- Designed to fit "flat to wall"; no inset depth required
- Black and brass effect finish
- 2kW fan heater with choice of 2 heat settings



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# Antibiotics aren't always the miracle cure you expect

BY JENNA PUDELEK

**PRESCRIBING** antibiotics for coughs, colds and sore throats is fuelling the spread of hospital superbugs, according to health experts.

The Department of Health launched a national campaign this month to highlight the problem, warning that resistance to antibiotics was on the rise and action was needed now to ensure existing treatments remained effective.

Health Secretary Alan Johnson said: "The use of antibiotics have saved countless lives, but antibiotics do not work on most coughs, colds and sore throats and their unnecessary use can leave the body susceptible to gut infections like Clostridium difficile (C dif)."

Dr Robert Stewart, who is the medical director of Eastern and Coastal Kent Primary Care Trust (PCT), said healthcare professionals in the county were working to address the problems raised by the overuse of antibiotics.

He said: "The use of antibiotics, certain types in particular, can actually be the reason they [superbugs] get going in the first place. I know healthcare professionals are looking at making sure the right antibiotics are prescribed at the right time and that they are not always seen as the answer to all ills."

In the second week of KOS Media's campaign against killer hospital bugs, we spoke to Sheila Brown, pharmacist and prescribing expert at Eastern and Coastal Kent PCT.

She explained why the overuse of antibiotics has been linked to rising rates of superbugs such as MRSA and C dif: "C dif is part of your natural flora of beneficial bacteria, which you need for good health."

She continued: "But when you take antibiotics, it does not always discriminate

KOS Media has joined forces with NHS organisations across Kent in a campaign to promote hand hygiene in all areas of our lives: at home, work, in hospitals and healthcare centres.

The message is simple – **WASH YOUR HANDS** – and help keep our hospital wards superbug-free. Health experts say simply keeping your hands clean is one way everybody can help in the battle against the bugs. Look out for the posters, leaflets, articles, radio interviews and film clips spreading the campaign's message throughout the county.

between the unhealthy bacteria, so it will eliminate the whole population of all of them."

Therefore by overusing antibiotics, patients leave themselves susceptible to unhealthy bacteria growing in place of what was there originally, she said.

"Around five per cent of the population is colonised with C dif, which increases to 25 per cent of older people. It is not a problem until something triggers bacteria to produce toxins, which is when you get the side-effects, such as diarrhoea, that are associated with C dif.

"Antibiotics can be the trigger that converts the bacterium to become toxigenic," Mrs Brown said.

Patients who ignore their doctor's advice to always finish an entire course of antibiotics are also putting themselves at risk.

Mrs Brown said: "If you do this, it means that not all of the bugs are killed off and the ones that survive are most likely to be drug-resistant."

"People are more susceptible [to other bugs] because the less resistant strains will have



been killed off first, but the bacteria that survived will reproduce so you are left with an infection which is slightly more resistant [to antibiotics]."

She added: "Only use antibiotics when they are really needed. If you are using them, always finish the course or otherwise you will increase resistance."

MRSA is one of the hospital-acquired infections that has developed an increased resistance to antibiotics.

The message from health experts is that antibiotics treat bacterial infections, not common viruses such as coughs, colds and sore throats.

Mrs Brown said GPs often felt pressured into prescribing antibiotics even when they were not needed.

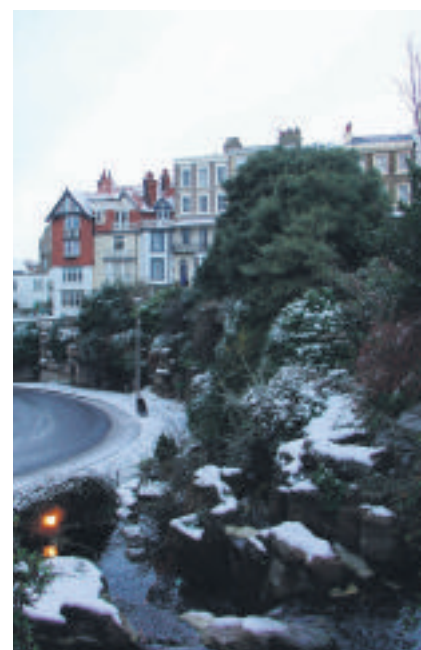
"I think there's pressure from the public thinking that they are the answer to everything. But there are things you can do yourself," she said.

She recommended that people with coughs, colds and sore throats saw their pharmacist first and tried a range of over-the-counter remedies such as painkillers and throat lozenges.

## Thanet is beautiful in the winter too!

There's a lot going on in Thanet all year round, find out what's happening in your area by buying the Winter edition of Isle. Just £1.50 from leading newsagents, retail outlets and visitor information centres.

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FULL RECOVERY: Scamp with delighted Hazel Stewart

# Scamp survives tumour bigger than his own head

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

WHEN dog owner Hazel Stewart took her companion Scamp to the vets because he wasn't eating very well she didn't expect the problem to be serious.

However, the trip to have Scamp checked out proved more than worthwhile when Ryk Botes, the vet at Companion Care in Broadstairs, discovered a tumour bigger than the dog's head.

It was compressing 10-year-old Scamp's organs, including his stomach, leading to the loss of

appetite. Hazel said: "He hadn't been eating much for three days and my friends said I should take him along to the vets."

The vet carried out emergency surgery on the Yorkshire terrier Cocker spaniel cross-breed and found that the tumour was isolated so carefully removed the 2.3kg mass.

Mr Botes said: "An ultrasound revealed a large tumour which completely filled the abdomen, pushing most of his internal organs out of position."

"It's the biggest tumour size for a small dog I have ever removed. Had it been left, it would eventually have killed him through organ failure."

The vet added: "To operate on such a sick dog was risky, but thankfully the tumour was isolated and had not spread to other organs so we were able to remove it successfully."

"However, if it had spread, we would almost certainly have had to euthanise the dog during surgery."

Hazel said: "I thank God it was able to be removed. He's the most beautiful-tempered dog I've had and he loves anyone who'll make a fuss of him."

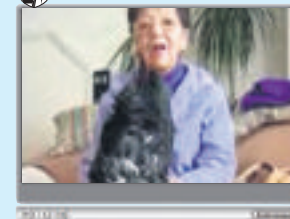
"Everyone at the vets was amazing – they've all done such a great job, especially Ryk."

She added: "Scamp's eating like a horse

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A lively Scamp is clearly better and back to his best form

now – I think he's probably trying to fill up all the space that he now has!"

Mrs Stewart, from Westgate-on-Sea, could not afford the surgery initially so benefited from co-operative funding care from Companion Care, the RSPCA, Blue Cross and the Dog's Trust.

The financial assistance of the charities helped save Scamp's life.

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# yourthanetblogger

Each week we get a mystery writer to air their views on living on the Isle of Thanet...

## The isle needs a right royal plan to bring back tourists

WE are often told that our taxes spent on pampering the Royal Family are worth the investment because we get a good return.

The monarchy brings huge sums of money to the country from tourists. So the argument goes.

At a local level, Thanet obviously does not have a queen who will draw in the tourists (apart from Margate's Gay Pride event). Our local taxes need to be invested in alternative tourist attractions.

If we had a booming tourist trade, this would create work and bring in revenue to bars, cafés and retail establishments. Despite fears of recession, the population is spending vast sums on leisure, so attracting day-trippers and weekend-aways is big business.

Thanet is ideally located, being easily accessible to the huge population of London, and soon that journey will be a little over an hour by train.

The obvious attraction for a seaside town would be a mega fun fair, such as at Blackpool, Brighton pier or Southend. This is the sort of

attraction which brings day-trippers and holiday-makers time and time again.

I know that many fear Thanet is losing all its green space, but I think we could find space on the island. What about opposite the main sands in Margate? This, though, is by no means the only suitable location.

We have the potential for many tourist attractions. The RAF museum at Manston (only £1 admission) has a fascinating display about Ramsgate during the war.

Why not open up some of the miles of tunnels under Ramsgate to be viewed by the public? This could be an educational experience, showing us how they were used as air-raid shelters.

Similar underground displays are very popular, such as the tunnels at Dover Castle and the St Clements Caves at Hastings, which were used by smugglers.

Thanet council seems to have a very different view of the future of the local economy, which does not make the most of our natural assets.

It proposes to end grant-funding to two museums because they are not attracting enough visitors. This is a step in the wrong direction.

The question should be: why is Thanet failing to attract sufficient visitors?

The Shell Lady is being built to attract visitors to the old town of Margate, but what else will be there if the museum closes?

There is little to attract a tourist to Thanet – we are not the only place in the country with nice beaches and some decent architecture.

The council's Corporate Plan states:

"We want Thanet to be a destination of choice for weekenders in the South East and the day-trip destination of choice for people in east Kent. We will promote a 'café culture' as a major focus for leisure and tourism in all our towns through planning and licensing policies."

Cafés – what a cunning plan to bring the tourists! That coupled with an art gallery.

I have nothing against having an art gallery, but Thanet needs more to offer if it is going to attract visitors on a repetitive basis and get them to part with their money.

**EDITOR'S NOTE: All bloggers are supplied with full name and address of the authors. They do not reflect the view of the newspaper but are designed to give our readers the chance to air their views.**

### GET IN TOUCH...

We want to hear your views



**EMAIL:** Letters, comments, views (along with your name) to: [yourthanet@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:yourthanet@kosmedia.co.uk)



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### LET US KNOW...

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering, contact the editor, **Dave Mairs**, on 01303 817022, or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Thanet blogger, then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of about 550 words) and email it to the editor.

And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town, log on to [www.yourthanet.co.uk](http://www.yourthanet.co.uk).

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## TALK TIME

### CLIVE HART

Clive Hart is Labour county councillor for Margate and Cliftonville... he talks about his hopes for the area



#### Why did you enter local politics?

Ninety per cent of being a councillor is community work and I've always tried to assist others wherever possible. During my former career in the electricity industry I was a training, health and safety staff representative and when a back injury ended that manual career I joined the Citizens Advice Bureau. The CAB provided me with excellent training and experience, which in turn led to five years in student welfare at Thanet College. While all this was happening I was also heavily involved with local resident and community groups. It's been a natural progression - I've always been interested in politics and when the time was right and my son and daughter finally became adults I decided to indulge my lifelong ambition and get involved.

#### What are the big issues in Margate and Cliftonville?

There are numerous individual issues, but basically Margate and Cliftonville have suffered from abject neglect over the past two or three decades. Many in positions of authority have simply ignored residents' concerns and tried to sweep them under the carpet. We all know what happens when you do that, and one day someone has to pay for sloppy and lazy attitudes. Sadly, that's where we are now in Margate and Cliftonville, and local residents and businesses are suffering badly. Personally, I apply one golden rule - those who genuinely care usually know what's best - and I insist that local people are consulted whenever I get the opportunity.

#### What difference do you feel you have made to the community in your time as councillor?

As a team player I'm lucky to belong to a wonderful team of councillors in Cliftonville West, and at TDC I do believe we've helped to raise its profile and helped turn it from a formerly neglected area into a firm priority. At KCC I hope I'm doing the same for Margate and Cliftonville.

## YOUR LETTERS

### Jane Bishop views offered some light

What a brilliant interview with Jane Bishop of the Walpole Bay Hotel (last week's Talk Time).

When she says she is a "defender of our Thanet heritage", you can tell that here is someone who really means it.

Contrast this with the self-promoting members of Thanet council who - when they're not telling us what a wonderful job they're doing - witter on about the isle's natural beauty while doing all they can to wreck it.

These are dark days for Thanet - and searching for the light is a thankless task.

Mick Davies  
Broadstairs

### Give us democracy from the EU

Parliamentary hopeful Laura Sandys says she believes in democracy and the need to fight against the centralisation of power (last week's Yourthanet).

So will she be demanding that Britain leaves the European Union, that centralised, undemocratic, corrupt regime determined to force total control over every aspect of our lives?

Also, in the same issue, Cllr Martin Wise says taxpayers' money is not available for private businesses.

Can he explain the vast amounts of taxpayers' money available by way of EU grants (our money recycled from Brussels) for private businesses setting up shop in Thanet?

Having EU assisted area status, Thanet council has had an officer specially available to

## LETTER OF THE WEEK



SEA HERE! Thanet still has natural beauty, so let's all celebrate it

### Accentuate the positive

I was interested to read last week's letters, as well as the Talk Time interview with Jane Bishop.

We love Thanet very much and have holidayed in the area all our lives, including memorable and much-enjoyed stays at the Walpole Bay Hotel.

We have now even bought a home in Minnis Bay. We have pictures also of the crowded beach at Margate, the crowds in Dreamland and the busy high street and those places mentioned in many of the letters.

I suppose it is good to look back and remember what a marvellous and thriving place Margate was, but sadly the present is depressing.

Regeneration is happening and let's look at the good points: work at last on the corner site opposite the Lido; properties being done up; Cliftonville front by the bandstand with the brand new buildings; work on the Old Town - very encouraging.

But how many more retirement homes do we need? How much longer before something happens at the Dreamland site and that awful gap following the demolition of fire-damaged arcades on the front? What about the number of boarded-up shops in the high street?

Look at the beautiful sandy beaches, the clean sea, the natural beauty.

Let's get out of the depression and be positive and look forward to Margate flourishing again - but everyone has to be involved in putting over the positive message.

Dennis Moor  
Minnis Bay

handle EU grants for applicants looking for a bit of free cash, especially around Manston airport, where under the EU's Developing Economies of Airport Regions schemes they may get assistance.

Can he also explain the THIRTY MILLION POUNDS - yes, £30 million - EU grant (taxpayers' money recycled from Brussels) handed to Planestation in 2002?

Roger Arnold  
UK Independence Party in Kent

## We're conscious of council investments

You've got to ask yourself why the Church of England has been ethically banking for decades. Something to do with conscience?

Perhaps some good will come of the Green Party attack on Kent County Council's investments in oil, tobacco and arms... instead of a counter-attack.

To put it in a broader context, how did we allow ourselves to get in this position of not knowing what our own pre-packed investment portfolios, premium bonds, ISAs and so on are really doing?

Alison Carey  
Ramsgate

## Not here just to beat the drum

Cllr John Worrow (letters, January 30) seems to suffer from the delusion that any argument is won by the person who shouts loudest and longest.

He also seems incapable of understanding the position of the majority of Birchington parish councillors, which is that they do not welcome the intrusion of politics or the use of his position as a local councillor to leverage the exposure of his political group.

If he is still unsure of this convention he should consult with his chairman, who, for many years, combined an influential position in a fairly popular political party with a non-political seat on Birchington Parish Council.

In fact, his chairman was elected to BPC as an independent member at the last election (see the TDC election returns).

Of course this does not

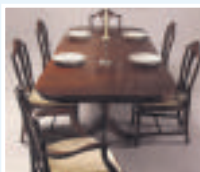
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preclude a BPC member from engaging in political activity elsewhere, including canvassing, if they so wish, although I must admit I have never indulged in that particular activity.

Indeed it is understood that Cllr Worror himself was quite partial to a bit of political posturing even before his current life as the Great Leader.

In conclusion, nobody is trying to deny the legitimacy of any person to rightfully be a member of the council, although it must be said that someone who can be bothered to spend time on the more mundane village support tasks, or indeed on routine parochial matters, will be more welcome than someone whose time is too precious for these lowly duties.

Our point is just that parish councillors 'join' for the benefit of the village and not to beat their own drum.

John Garland  
Birchington parish councillor

## Pay more and get less with Steve's lot

How on Earth Labour MP Dr Steve Ladyman has the gall to criticise Thanet council is totally beyond me.

Our council taxes have more than doubled thanks to his Government's misappropriation, manipulation and redistribution of locally raised taxes.

Perhaps he should look at his own Government's record on spending tax-payers' money before he makes such ludicrous statements.

I would like to remind him of the great pensions robbery, taking billions out of our pension funds

while increasing MPs' pensions.

The uncountable amount of stealth taxes and fiscal drag that are the hallmark of his Government.

The extortionate 66 per cent fuel levy motorists are forced to pay.

The billions wasted on computer systems that do not work.

The Northern Rock debacle and the £2 billion write-off for the failed PPI London transport system.

Oh! Wasn't it your lot who gave up billions of pounds of taxpayers' rebate back to the EU? We won't mention the promised referendum.

Basically, with your Government, Steve, we pay more and get less.

Finally, let us not also forget that it is Steve who wants to charge us for every mile we drive on our roads – the poorly maintained roads that we have already paid for several times over. What a cheek.

Steve Reszczyński  
Margate

## Fly-tippers should be dumped with fine

I note the fly-tippers are at it again at Manston.

The owners of the old Drome garage site fenced it off to stop this happening, but the gate has been knocked down and there is already a mattress there.

These dumpers should be given the maximum £50,000 fine.

They have no regard for Thanet or its people. What business wants a rubbish tip at its entrance?

Or is this another part of our inept council's so-called regeneration plans? Dump rubbish where you want!

Adrian Ottley  
Birchington

## Another blow to our once-green seafront

In response to Christine Tongue's letter last week, I too am appalled at the removal of the hedge and grass lawn at the Royal Albion Hotel in Broadstairs.

It is a blatant disregard for the seafront and its people. We have so few green spaces left – the only ones now are Victoria Gardens, Pavilion Gardens and Balmoral Gardens.

Jane Burges  
Ramsgate

## Hotel work will be a big improvement

I am writing with regard to last week's letter from Christine Tongue.

Shepherd Neame has owned the hotel for just over one year and we have received a great deal of positive feedback from customers over that time.

Our work on the garden, as mentioned in the letter, is the first stage of a big investment at the hotel.

The work has both listed building and planning consent, and the project is being led by a local gardening practice with a Chelsea Flower Show award to its name.

Not all of the plants and trees are being removed and there will be considerable additional planting within the new development.

As a result, we are confident that it will be a significant improvement to the hotel and I am sure it will be enjoyed by many customers in the coming years.

Nigel Bunting, retail director  
Shepherd Neame

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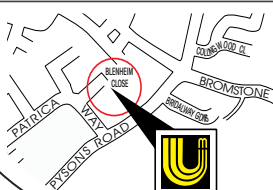
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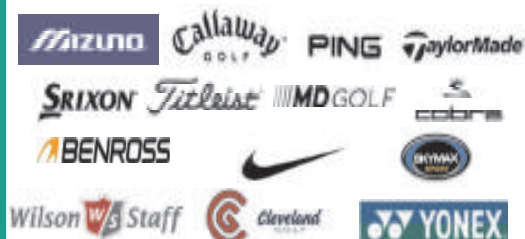
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**yourthanetleisure****SHARP:** From sword-walking to swallowing, the Circus of Horrors has a variety of deadly tricks to horrify and entertain amazed audiences**Horrifically entertaining**

Enjoy some truly gruesome circus tricks

VISIT a big top with a big twist when the Circus of Horrors brings its unique brand of bloodcurdling antics to Kent.

The circus visits the Leas Cliff Hall next month with its brand new show, Bloodthirsty and Burlesque, with even more bizarre, grotesque and daring acts to keep spectators on the edge of their seats. This awe-inspiring show will have the audience both covering their eyes and rolling with laughter as its crazy stars work their shocking magic.

In the new show, all the old favourites are present but this time they are trapped in the Macabre Mad House, until they escape and run amok into the Parisian nightlife.

Undead ringmaster Dr Haze presides over the madness, as witchdoctors, voodoo acrobats, bendy bodies, demon dwarfs and even a pickled person play out the hellish tale.

The show, which contains some nudity and bad language, is recommended as PG viewing. Strobe lighting and pyrotechnics are also used.

Circus of Horrors staged its first full show at Glastonbury 13 years ago, revolutionising traditional ideas about the circus. The early shows were set in the distant future and ran for five years, before being given a major makeover in 2000. Staging became more theatre-friendly and a brand new story was introduced in

**CIRCUS OF HORRORS**

Sunday, March 8  
Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone

the form of The Evilution AKA Welcome To The Freak Show Tour. Set in 1800s London, the story featured a young girl who ran away to join the circus only to be targeted by a sadistic vampire.

The company was the brainchild of ringmaster Dr Haze, who was born to a circus family but developed a passion for music as a teenager. At 20 he left the circus to form his first band Flash Harry, which was later renamed Haze. Under various alterna-

tive names, Haze enjoyed some success and even supported the likes of Depeche Mode and Gary Glitter.

Dr Haze was unable to escape his theatrical heritage, with live performances becoming ever more spectacular. Setting his sights on a bigger stage, he enlisted the help of infamous ringmaster Gerry Cottle to create something amazing.

Just six months after they met, the first Circus of Horrors show was premiered and a worldwide sensation was born.

With such an array of incredible performers, the risk of serious injury is never far away. Sword swallower Hannibal Hellmurto skewered his larynx last year and had to be rushed to hospital. Captain Dan the Demon Dwarf also had to visit a hospital when he had an unfortunate incident with a vacuum cleaner.

Brother and sister contortionist act, Emilia and Victor Arata, (who are not on the current tour) recently made headlines when they became housemates on Channel 4's reality show Big Brother Celebrity Hijack. Emilia made it to the final and was only beaten to the £50,000 prize by student politician John Loughton.

Discover the weird and wonderful world of Circus of Horrors – if you dare! The performance starts at 7.30pm and tickets are priced from £10 to £25. Call the box office on 0844 847 1776 or see [www.leascliffhall.co.uk](http://www.leascliffhall.co.uk).

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## CANTATE ENSEMBLE

Saturday, February 16  
The Memorial Theatre, Broadstairs

CELEBRATE all things romantic with a Valentine concert by the Cantate Ensemble.

The club will raise funds for the Sarah Thorne Theatre Club, a local organisation which has brought a wide variety of fantastic productions to The Memorial Theatre in Hilderstone.

Cantate is a Thanet-based chamber choir which was formed in 1996 and has performed on a regular basis ever since. Under the guidance of musical director Edward

Greenhalgh, the choir has delighted audiences at Broadstairs Folk Festival, the Canterbury Festival, private functions and fund-raising events for local charities.

With characteristically eclectic programmes, the repertoire includes music from the Renaissance to the present day.

The talented choir is just as comfortable singing Gregorian chants as songs from the musicals, and the concert promises to be a great evening full of wonderful music, songs and mirth.

It starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £10 for club members and £12 for non-members, including an interval buffet. To book, phone the box office on 0845 262 6263.

## BRIEF ENCOUNTER

Saturday, February 16,  
Theatre Royal Margate

GET into the Valentine spirit by watching arguably the most romantic film of all time, Brief Encounter.

In the unique atmosphere of the Theatre Royal Margate, the screening of David Lean's 1945 classic tale about forbidden love should soften even the hardest heart.

During the last days of World War Two, married Laura (Celia Johnson) lives up her staid lifestyle with weekly shopping trips to a nearby town. While waiting for her train one day, she gets a piece of grit in her eye and kindly doctor Alec (Trevor Howard) comes to her rescue.

From then on she often encounters Alec at the railway station and the pair strike up a friendship, arranging regular cinema trips together. They gradually begin to fall in love, leaving Laura torn between elation and dreadful guilt as she considers being unfaithful to her passionless husband Fred.



Will the star-crossed lovers follow their hearts, or will life's responsibilities keep them apart forever?

Find out when Brief Encounter is screened at the theatre at 2.30pm. Tickets cost £4. To book, phone the box office on 01227 787787 or 0845 130 1786, or buy tickets at the door an hour before the show. Find out more about all the theatre's upcoming performances at [www.theatreroyalmargate.com](http://www.theatreroyalmargate.com).



## AFRICAN SPIRIT

Friday, February 15  
Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury

EXPERIENCE the warm and exotic sound of the critically acclaimed Soweto Gospel Choir.

For the first time, the group will be accompanied by its own four-piece band in the new show African Spirit.

There will be new dance routines and costumes, as

well as a chance to hear the choir perform a capella.

The show explores the many different aspects of love – from religious belief, to the love humans have for each other and the spirit of living in harmony together. Featuring everything from gospel songs to material by Bob Dylan, African Spirit is an uplifting celebration of the beauty and passion that is Africa.

Since enjoying a sell-out

debut at the Edinburgh Festival in 2003, the choir has performed to full houses all over the world and sung alongside some music legends. They have also just finished recording with Robert Plant for the Fats Domino tribute album.

Performances start at 5.30pm and 8.30pm and tickets cost £25/£23. Call the box office on 01227 787787, or see [www.marlowetheatre.com](http://www.marlowetheatre.com).

## THANET LEISURE

### See Humpty Dumpty fall with the players

CLASSIC children's tale Humpty Dumpty is to be brought to life by the Birchington Guild of Players.

The annual pantomime will be staged at the Birchington Village Centre from Friday to Sunday, February 15-17, and Friday and Saturday, February 22-23.

Performances start at 7.30pm each day and at 2.30pm on Saturday and Sunday. Tickets cost £6/£5.50. For details, phone 01843 290266, or visit [www.birchingtonguild.co.uk](http://www.birchingtonguild.co.uk).

### Fine art society to learn about paradise

LEARN about the garden of paradise in a lecture presented by Thanet Decorative and Fine Arts Society.

The talk will focus on the garden as described in the Quran and its influence on the medieval palace architecture of the Islamic world, such as in Syria, Andalusia and Mughal, India.

Visitors should arrive at St Peter's church hall at 2pm on Thursday, February 21.

You can find out more about the society at [www.nadaskentarea.org.uk](http://www.nadaskentarea.org.uk).

### Gig will rock you, but there won't be a buffet

ROCK band Surf Dude Grandad will be providing some quality live music in Margate this weekend.

The four-piece band, who only play rock and have "a phobia for any event that contains a buffet", will be performing at the Britannia Inn in Fort Hill on Saturday.

For more details about the gig, phone the pub on 01843 223269. More information about the band is available at [www.surfdudegrandad.moonfruit.com](http://www.surfdudegrandad.moonfruit.com) or [www.myspace.com/surfdudegrandad](http://www.myspace.com/surfdudegrandad).

### Nothing vacant about great covers band

HITS by bands such as Stereophonics, Coldplay, Arctic Monkeys and Pink Floyd can be enjoyed live this weekend.

Situation Vacant, a four-piece covers band, will be playing great tunes by a range of artists from The Killers to Oasis. See them perform live at the Bradstow Mill in High Street, Broadstairs, on Saturday.

Find out more about the band at [www.situationvacant.co.uk](http://www.situationvacant.co.uk).

**VIEW THIS CLIP ON**  
[yourkenttv.co.uk](http://yourkenttv.co.uk)

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Julie Maddocks reports on celebrating the Chinese New Year in style

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Enter or quote: KOSWINE1

\*Day trip fare valid for a car & up to 5 people. Telephone supplement applies. Travel by 31 March 2008, book and pay by 27 February 2008. Subject to promotional space, restricted sailing times & availability. Fare is non-refundable. Amendment fees will apply. Includes all possible taxes/surcharges. Fare may be withdrawn without prior notice. Full terms & conditions are available on request. To claim your free bottle of Hill Prestige simply enter the onboard shop and present your wine voucher to the till point. SeaFrance FREE bottle of wine can only be redeemed on the inbound journey (Calais to Dover). Wine & Beer World free wine is only available with any purchase. Your free wine voucher for both SeaFrance and Wine & Beer World will be handed out at check in along with your boarding pass. To claim your free Wine & Beer World wine, present your voucher (before you have paid for your purchases) at the till point of any Wine & Beer World store. Subject to availability. 3 bottles is the maximum discount per car, per day from Wine & Beer World. Not valid in conjunction with any other offer. This offer may be withdrawn at any time without prior notice. Only one redemption per person, per car, per transaction, per day. Offer not available from Majestic Stores in the UK. Wine & Beer World offer code 77274.

# Great choice, great food, great entertainment!

## PUBS

### Barnacles

1 King Street, Margate  
Tel: 01843 293316

Steeped in local history, Barnacles is a busy, traditional and friendly pub.

### Cramptons

139 High Street  
Broadstairs  
Tel: 01843 860428

Great fresh funky food served daily 12pm to 5pm. £5.50 meal deal and daily specials available.

DJs every Friday and Saturday nights open till midnight. Two for one on all drinks every Friday and Saturday 7pm-9pm. The best venue in Thanet for live football shown on plasma TVs and the big screen.

### Quart in a Pint Pot

28-30 Charlotte Square  
Margate  
Tel: 01843 223672

The local pub for the local people. All live sporting events being shown on big screen.

Saturday 23 February  
Karaoke once a month.

### Sheldons

#### Freehouse

High Street, Margate  
Tel: 01843 223578

Excellent home-cooked traditional lunches served Monday to Saturday 12pm-2.30pm with five daily specials.

### The 19th Hole

Cornerways  
George Hill Road  
Kingsgate, Broadstairs  
Tel: 01843 869548

Traditional home-made food served Tuesday to Sunday 12pm-2pm and Wednesday and Saturday evenings 7pm-9pm. Three course Sunday lunch plus glass of wine £10.95 per person.

Valentines Day Special  
£29.50 per couple

Thursday 28 February  
Quiz Night and Curry  
Night £7.95 per head

Bookings now being  
taken for Mothers Day!

The Kings Head Bistro  
re-opens Monday  
15 October.

### The Elephant & Castle

8-10 Hereson Road  
Ramsgate  
Tel: 01843 593046

Newly installed smoking  
shelter. A warm and  
welcoming pub, with its  
own quiz, pool and darts  
teams, showing all the  
live sporting action. Karaoke  
and discos every Friday  
and Saturday.

## PUBS

### The Lanthorne

20 Callis Court Road  
Broadstairs  
Tel: 01843 861952

All sport shown on 3 High  
Definition screens. Sky  
Setanta + Premium Plus

Free Buffet Food on the  
bar Mon-Fri 5:30-6:30.  
BBQs in summer.

Nice dry and warm  
smoking area.

### The Bradstow Mill

125 High Street  
Broadstairs  
Tel: 01843 861108

One of the oldest pubs in  
Broadstairs. Live music  
every Thursday and  
Saturday. Resident  
Karaoke every Friday.

Thursday 14 February  
Mental Floss

Saturday 16 February  
Situation Vacant

Thursday 21 February  
Crazy Train

Saturday 23 February  
Viagra Falls

Sunday 24 February  
Jaeger

### The Queens Head

78 Harbour Parade  
Ramsgate  
Tel: 01843 853888

Lively seafront fun pub with  
three bars and local DJs on  
Friday and Saturday nights.  
Open late till midnight on  
Fridays and 1am on  
Saturdays. All live sporting  
events shown on big  
screen and six plasma TVs.  
Promotions on drinks every  
Friday.

Private Function Room for  
Hire.

### The Port & Anchor

2-4 Albion Hill  
Ramsgate  
Tel: 01843 850493

Kick off the new football  
season at the liveliest  
sports bar in Ramsgate.  
Three plasma TVs and two  
big screens showing all  
major sporting events.  
Karaoke every Thursday  
and Sunday night.

### The Red Lion

1 King Street  
Ramsgate  
Tel: 01843 586713

Live music from all the best  
local bands every Friday  
and Saturday nights.

Valentines Day 14  
February  
Where's My Thing

Saturday 16 February  
Delay Room

Thursday 21 February  
Film Club

Saturday 23 February  
Hard Road Blues

Thursday 28 February  
Damage Case

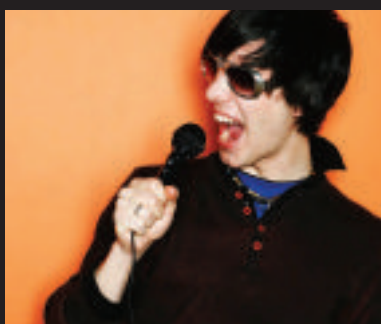
Traditional pub food served  
11.30am-3am Monday to  
Saturday. All major sporting  
events shown on big  
screen and plasma TVs.



## STYLE



## STANDARDS



## SERVICE



[www.thorleytaverns.co.uk](http://www.thorleytaverns.co.uk)

## PUBS

### The Royal

51 Harbour Parade  
Ramsgate  
Tel: 01843 599599

Three course lunches  
served Monday to  
Saturday £5.95. Sunday  
all-you-can-eat carvery  
between 12pm and 4pm.

Same stuff, different floor.  
The Royal will be open  
Thurs/Fri/Sat/Sun on the  
first floor from 9pm

Thursday  
£1 vodka and mixer  
all night. WKD buy 1 get 1  
free for an hour from  
12.30am-1.30am

Friday  
Ladies night - free bar for  
ladies 10pm-11pm.  
All drinks £2 all night.

Saturday  
All drinks - buy one get  
one free 9pm-11pm. After  
11pm Wheel of Fortune.

Sunday  
80s night. All drinks 80p  
for 80 minutes 9.10pm-  
10.30pm. All drinks 80p  
off after 10.30pm.

Monday night  
£1.50 bar for students  
and staff of Thorley  
Taverns.

### The South Eastern

11 Margate Rd, Ramsgate  
Tel: 01843 593880

Live Football, Cricket and  
Rugby shown. Karaoke  
every weekend.

### The St Lawrence Tavern

The High Street  
St Lawrence, Ramsgate  
Tel: 01843 592337

The family pub in the  
heart of Ramsgate serving  
fantastic home-prepared  
food at excellent value.

Mondays and Wednesdays  
Home-cooked meals for  
two - £10.

Monday to Thursday  
Rump steak with all the  
trimmings - £7.50.

Monday to Friday  
"Daily testamers" -  
two meals for £6.99.

Sunday  
Three course menu for  
£10. Upstairs function  
room for 40 people.

Valentines Day 14  
February

Fantastic menu £35 per  
couple, buy 2 large  
glasses of Gallo Blush  
and get the rest of the  
bottle free. Book early to  
avoid disappointment!

Big screen showing all  
live sporting events.

### The Wellington

1 Duke Street  
Margate  
Tel: 01843 229169

Karaoke every Friday and  
Saturday. All major live  
football and rugby shown  
on plasma TVs.

## PUBS

### The Wig & Pen

10 Market Place  
Margate  
Tel: 01843 231180

Popular pub in the Old  
Town of Margate.

NOW featuring full Sky  
package and showing all  
Sky and Setanta games.

Pub Grub available  
Monday to Friday  
12 - 2pm

Karaoke Every weekend  
due to The Wellington  
closing and Joining the  
Wig & Pen.

## CLUBS

### The Punch & Judy

50 Marine Terrace  
Margate  
Tel: 01843 231006

Free admission seven  
days a week.

### Wednesday

DJs all night.  
All drinks 80p 9pm-10pm.  
All drinks £1 10pm-11pm.  
All drinks £1.50 11pm-12am.  
All drinks £2 12am-2am.  
WKD and vodka and  
mixer 80p 11pm-2am.

### Thursday

Cocktail night.

Friday and Saturday  
99p drinks 8.30pm-10.30pm.

### Escape

49/51 Marine Terrace  
Margate  
Tel: 01843 232025  
[www.escapemargate.com](http://www.escapemargate.com)

Open Thursday, Friday  
and Saturday nights.

### Thursday

Open 9pm-2am.  
£5 admission. All drinks  
free 9pm-9.30pm.

9.30pm-10pm All Drinks 50p  
10pm-11pm All Drinks £1  
11pm-2am All Drinks £1.50

Karaoke every Thursday  
9pm-11pm

### FAB Fridays

Open 9.30pm-2.30am.  
Drinks £1.50  
9.30pm-midnight.  
Two for one - all drinks  
75p 10pm-10.30pm.

### Saturday

Open 10pm-3am.  
£5 admission, selected  
drinks £1.50 all night.  
Happy hour 1am-2am -  
all drinks £1.50.

# THORLEY TAVERNS

PUBS, CLUBS & FOOD



# Fine food, great service

## Book early for Mothers Day 2nd March

### HOTELS

#### The Fayreness Hotel

Marine Drive  
Kingsgate  
Tel: 01843 868641  
www.fayreness.co.uk

Beautiful cliff-top location with 29 en-suite bedrooms, lounge bar, function rooms and restaurant with sea views.

Bar snacks served seven days a week. Fully licensed for civil weddings.

Quiz night last Wednesday of every month – £10 per person including three course meal.

#### The Oak Hotel

66 Harbour Parade  
Ramsgate  
Tel: 01843 583686  
www.oakhotel.co.uk

##### Champagne Delight

Add that something special to your room by booking our Champagne package for £49.95. A chilled bottle of Moët et Chandon Champagne and a bouquet of flowers will be waiting for your arrival at our hotel.

##### SPECIAL OFFERS

###### Sunday Night Saver

Please quote 'Sunday Saver' at time of booking. Book any room for Saturday and Sunday night and get a reduction on the second night.

###### Arriving on a Monday?

Why not beat the traffic and arrive on Sunday instead, saving 50% on that night!

(The above offers are only applicable to a continuous stay and are subject to availability. Offers do not include Bank Holidays, Christmas or New Year and cannot be combined with any other promotion).

**Two Night Gourmet Weekend Break**  
£190 for two people sharing an Executive Double room, including breakfast, a £45 voucher for Atlantis Restaurant and a bottle of House Wine. Upgrade to a Sea View room with Jacuzzi style bath for £15 per night.

**Three Night Gourmet Weekend Break**  
£250 for two people sharing an Executive Double room, including breakfast, a £45 voucher for Atlantis Restaurant and a bottle of House Wine. Upgrade to a Sea View room with Jacuzzi style bath for £15 per night.

#### The Pegwell Bay Hotel and Sir Stanley Gray Freehouse

81 Pegwell Road  
Pegwell Village  
Ramsgate  
Tel: 01843 599590

Traditional pub food served seven days a week from midday to 9.15pm. Fully refurbished lower function room.

##### SPECIAL OFFERS

###### Sunday Saver

Book any room for Saturday and stay Sunday night for half price! (Except on Bank Holiday weekends).

###### Bank Holiday Weekends

Book any room for Sunday night and stay Monday night for half price!

**Valentines Day 14 February**  
Bookings now being taken

**Sunday 17 February**  
Music with Rio, 3-5pm (Landlord's birthday)

**Mothers Day 2 March**  
Special Menu - Book now to avoid disappointment

Clifton Suite now open. Sunday lunches – panoramic view of the channel. Ravenscliff Suite now available for functions.

#### Hotel DeVille

45 Grange Road  
Ramsgate  
Tel: 01843 592289  
www.thehoteldeville.co.uk

The top class bed and breakfast for Ramsgate. Two lively bars showing all live sporting events on big screen and five plasma TVs.



### STYLE



### STANDARDS



### SERVICE



### RESTAURANTS

#### Atlantis Restaurant

Harbour Parade  
Ramsgate  
Tel: 01843 581582

The elegantly finished Atlantis Restaurant provides the perfect ambience for your meal. Whether the visit is for business or pleasure, our welcoming team will cater to your every need. Our excellent team of chefs offer a tempting variety of dishes from the sea alongside classic alternatives and daily specials.

Full a la carte menu available daily.

Table D'hôte menu served lunchtimes and evening Monday evening through to Saturday evening.

Lunch	2 course £11.95
	3 course £14.95
Evening	2 course £19.95
	3 course £22.95

##### Valentines Day 14 February

Special platters to share. Tables of 4 plus - Free bottle of Zinfandel Blush

#### The Captain Digby

Kingsgate  
Broadstairs  
Tel: 01843 867764  
www.captaindigby.co.uk

Award-winning family restaurant.

Cliff-top location with superb views over the channel. Indoor and outdoor children's play areas, children's parties organised.

Bookings now being taken for Mothering Sunday  
Set 3-course meal £18.95

#### The Tartar Frigate

Harbour Street  
Broadstairs  
Tel: 01843 862013  
www.tartarfrigate.co.uk

Regarded as the best seafood restaurant in Kent with a traditional family pub.

Sunday Lunch – 4 courses £15.50.  
Booking strongly recommended.

Two sittings 12.30pm and 3.30pm.

##### 15 February

Mel Harris – Wall to Wall 60's

##### 22 February

Pepper Set

##### 29 February

Wilson Ford

##### 7 March

Matt Brooks

Every Wednesday evening  
Folk Session 8.30pm

### VENUES

#### The Pavilion

Harbour Street  
Broadstairs  
Tel: 01843 800999  
www.pavilion-broadstairs.co.uk

Licensed for civil weddings. Restaurant and bar open to all seven days a week. Functions and conferences.

**Salsa night every Tuesday**  
Members £4, Non-members £7.

##### Sunday 2 March

Mothering Sunday Lunch £17.50 per person. Phone or email to book - reservations being taken now!

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Catherine won  
**£20,000**  
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Sandra won  
**£50,000**  
at Mecca Leeds  
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## Opening 14<sup>th</sup> February

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# yourthanetgetaways



## Take your hats off to Panama

BY LAURA SILVERMAN

OUR little boat was tossing and turning on the seas like a ball inside a lottery machine, with pellets of rain gushing from above as if the gods had gone paint-balling.

Yet onwards we sped – down the Chagres River and into Gatun Lake, which feeds that marvel of engineering splitting North and South America: the Panama Canal.

The sky had layers of thick grey-white clouds closing in on us, each tier sagging from the weight of the one above. Then the wind blew and the rain stopped.

Such downpours are common in Panama during winter, which runs from mid-April to mid-December. It is one of the wettest places on earth – although unlike the rest of Central America it doesn't have hurricanes and is warm all year round.

So much water provides a fertile environment for plants and wildlife. In its indigenous language, 'panama' means an abundance of fish or butterflies.

Man has, of course, made his mark with the infamous 50-mile canal, but what was impressive is now outdated.

Last September saw the start of a seven-year project to expand the waterway to accommodate more and larger ships. Presently, there can be queues of up to 100 liners on either side.

The Gatun Lake is deserted, at least in



**POPULAR:** Thousands of boats travelling between the Atlantic and Pacific come through the Panama Canal

terms of boats and tourists – although not in terms of nature, especially as we approach Monkey Island. Here a turtle paddling in the water; there a sloth curled up on a branch and lots of monkeys in the trees.

Nor could we escape animals back at our hotel, the Gamboa Rainforest Resort. In its grounds – the Soberania National Park – lizards scuttled noisily through the grass; agouti (like giant rats on springs) bounded up from behind bushes; frogs croaked incessantly in a high-pitched trigger.

And the birds! With its 950 species, Panama

has more types of bird than any other country in Central America. And you don't need to wait for hours to spot them, although there are tours to see the more rare ones. At dawn, hummingbirds whizz around the trees, at dusk vultures circle the ocean.

Of course, the whole country is not wild, swampy landscape. Panama City is an incongruous mix of anything but. And it is the view from the partially-reconstructed cathedral tower of the original old city, Panama Viejo, that best tells the story of Panama's somewhat turbulent past.

From one side is a Miami-style skyline – soaring office blocks, new five-star hotels and luxury apartments drawing American retirees. A gap in the facing wall reveals building work. Another side exposes water – inescapable. And from the last you can see ruins.

Panama was the first European settlement on the Pacific coast of the Americas and was built and inhabited by the Spanish in the 16th century.

In the late 17th century the city was burned down by an English pirate, Henry Morgan, and was moved to a place known today as Casco Antiguo, Casco Viejo or the Old Quarter.

With the faded glory of its French, Spanish and early American architecture, this part of town resembles a cross-between Havana and New Orleans.

It is clear that the country – already one of the most stable in Central America – is on the up. For history as engaging and fascinating as its natural environment, Panama reigns. And this time I don't mean the weather.

### FACT FILE: PANAMA

Time difference	UK -5 hours
Currency	Balboa 2 to £1
Capital	Panama City
Population	32 million
Language	Spanish
Religion	Roman Catholic
Climate	Tropical

### Holiday details

Laura Silverman was a guest of Virgin Holidays, which offers seven nights' half-board at the four-star Gamboa Rainforest Resort from £1,099 during 2008, including Virgin Atlantic flights into Panama, via Cuba, plus transfers and half-board accommodation.

Virgin can arrange regional departures from Manchester and Glasgow from around £25 return, subject to availability, to link with the Cuba flight which only leaves Gatwick.

Virgin Holidays reservations: 0871 222 304 or visit [www.virginholidays.com](http://www.virginholidays.com)



SHARE YOUR HOLIDAY VIDEOS @ [yourkenttv.co.uk](http://yourkenttv.co.uk)

DISCOVER THE DIVERSITY OF PANAMA'S SURROUNDINGS WHEN YOU VIEW THE CLIP FOR YOURSELF @ [yourkenttv.co.uk](http://yourkenttv.co.uk)

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Broadstairs AEC, Hilderstone, St. Peters Road, Broadstairs, CT10 2JW



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3pm - 6pm (after school club)

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**yourthanetstyle****TRENDSETTER**

Singer-songwriter Kate Nash  
is starting a new craze with  
her 1940s dresses.

Picture REX FEATURES

**Time for  
tea****RIVER ISLAND**

Shoes, price £49.99



Re-create Kate Nash's  
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pretty tea dresses

**NEW LOOK**

Dress, price £25

**DUNE**

Gettle shoe  
boots, price £85

**MATALAN**

Tea dress, price £16





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Tea dress, price £35

**MONSOON**

Rosemary bead dress, price £55



**NEW LOOK**  
Dress, price £20



**NEW LOOK**  
Dress, price £35



**NEXT**

Dress, price £35



**PRIMARK**

Wedge sandals, price £12



## THANET SHOPPING

### Here's where you'll find the perfect bouquet

MARGATE florist The Flower Lab is doing some great Valentine's Day deals.

Owner Thomas Reeves has put together three special bouquets for the occasion.

Love Hearts is a bouquet which includes shamrocks, pink roses, pink lilies, thistles and tubes of the flirty sweets.

Seduction contains unusual tropical blooms and exotic flowers in hot pink and green, while the Love Sick bouquet contains large pill-shaped bars of soap and is made up of white lilies and red roses.

The bouquets should get you in the good books with the big day approaching fast and are available from £30, £40 or £50, depending on size.

All three come with plant food, a card and aquabox.

Bunches of a dozen red roses and baby blue roses start at £30.

Meanwhile, the Market Street shop is selling bunches of disco roses, aimed at the gay market.

The flowers come in a rainbow theme with different-coloured petals.

Thomas said: "I'm expecting a rush, so get in time."

Delivery is £2.50, £5.00 or £4.50, depending on size.

The florist added that if you order for Mother's Day at the same time he will give you a 10 per cent discount.

### Snap up a bargain this Valentine's Day at Argos

SHOPPERS can save up to half the price on cameras, so catching that special moment on film this Valentine's Day couldn't be easier.

Argos, which has stores at Margate, Ramsgate and Westwood Cross, is offering its customers huge savings of up to half price on selected digital cameras.

Cameras available to buy under this offer include various styles of Sony, Fujifilm, Kodak, Cannon and Samsung.

To find out more, visit [www.argos.co.uk](http://www.argos.co.uk), or pop into your local store.

### Crack open the bubbly with your loved one

BOTTLES of bubbly will ensure your Valentine's Day goes with a bang.

Tesco is popping the price of some bottles of cava by half price.

Freixent Vintage Cava, described as having a "fine yellowish colour and fine persistent sparkle with delicate bouquet", is selling at £28.44.

For the same price, Codorniu Rose Cave, with a pink tint perhaps more fitting of the occasion, is also on offer.

Both bottles are down from £56.94.

### Be part of the gaming club with new release

PACEY arcade-style shoot-em-up The Club has been released for Xbox and PS3.

The Club, published by Sega, encourages players to compete for the highest score by choosing between eight fighters, each with their own combat style and motivations.

In addition to a variety of single-player scenarios, The Club boasts a variety of on- and off-line multi-player modes that will cause arguments across leader boards around the world.

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## WOMEN'S SPOTLIGHT

### LIVELY UP YOURSELF

Lively female, 26, 5'2", brown hair, green eyes, size 10, single mum, enjoys most things, seeks genuine, laid-back guy for fun, friendship and more. Box 426555

### LIFE IS FOR LIVING

Outgoing, friendly, sociable woman, 27, seeks man to make her laugh and enjoy all that life has to offer. Box 897063

### HONESTY & HUMOUR PLEASE!

Attractive female, 29, size 8-10, 5'8", long hair/blue eyes, enjoys gym, cinema, dancing, seeking honest, reliable male 27-38 with a GSOH, for friendship possible. LTR. Box 410494

### LOVE IS ALL YOU NEED

Caring, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5'2", blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 394013

### SEARCHING MR RIGHT

Lively, attractive female, 32, 5'5", looking to meet that someone special to share life, laughter and love. Box 429124

## TRAVEL HAPPY

Attractive 36yr old female, dark brown hair, blue eyes, curvy physique, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walking, cycling, seeks loving, fun male, for friendship/relationship. Box 901893

## WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM LIFE?

36 year old female, divorced with no children, brunette, loves travel, music, cinema, nice meals, theatre, career, salsa, seeking someone for friendship and more. Rotherham Box 434374

## SMILE SMILE???

Single 36yr old female, like most things in life, very loving and caring, 5'5", curvy build, good personality, seeking a gentle, considerate man. Box 431285

## SEIZE THE DAY

Loving female, 36, 5'4", brown hair, green eyes, likes socialising, staying in, seeks genuine male for friendship and more. Box 428666

## PERSONALITY

Large, bubbly lady, 37, 5'8", like country walks, seaside, bird watching, all music, looking for that special male for good times. Box 435615

## PRETTY WOMAN

Hi I'm 37, 5'8", mostly long hair, grey eyes, N/S, large bubbly lady, love pubs, country walks, bird watching, seeking kind, tactile, N/S gent, possibly romantic! Box 435674

## DON'T PASS ME BY

40yo, single mum of 4, 37, Kent based, into most things, looking for friendship or possibly romance. Box 897983

## HUGS, LAUGHS AND CUDDLES

Honest, sincere female, 38, GSOH, live with my children, love a laugh, looking for friendship and hugs with a nice gent. Box 896649

## YOUNG-AT-HEART

Attractive 36yr old female, dark brown hair, blue eyes, curvy physique, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walking, cycling, seeks loving, fun male, for friendship/relationship. Box 901893

## THE WIT TO WOOL

Kent female, 38, 5'7", dark eyes, GSOH, no kids, lots of cosy nights in, socialising, country pubs, cinema, seeks loyal, caring male, for friendship & more. Box 152962

## MAKE ME GIGGLE

Black female, 38 years old, 5'10", likes going out, seeking a sociable male, who likes having a laugh, Gillingham. Box 429589

## OH MANDY

Mandy, 38, lovely brunette, petite & slim, very tactile & bubbly, professional mum, W/LTM, honest, romantic N/S man. Box 435693

## SAMTIMES YOU NEED A MAN

40yo, 40 (just!), single Mum of 4, independent, own house, hard-working, seeking loyal, happy-go-lucky (like me!), easygoing male for fun and maybe relationship. Box 435686

## YOU'LL SMILE IF YOU DIAL

Bubbly 40yr old female, enjoys beaches, pubs, clubs, W/LTM a like-minded, caring male to share fun times with. Box 45102

## JOIN ME BABY

Fun-loving, vivacious woman, early 40s, enjoys dining out, walking, cinema, looking for a confident man with GSOH, N/S nature, looking for a maybe more. Box 896889

## I KNOW YOU WERE WAITING

Loving, caring single mum, 42, loves travelling, walking, nights in/out. Would love to meet somebody special to share life's ups and downs with. Paul, call again! Box 897101

## STRIKE ME

42yo, slim, down-to-earth, normal! love bowling, cinema, clubs, seeking a male 40-55 for friendship and more! Box 435642

## HAPPY NATURE

49yr old outgoing female, 5'4", brown hair, green eyes, medium build, enjoys cinema, meets out, seeking a friendly N/S guy for nice times. Box 435451

## TAKE A CHANCE

Hard-working female, 41, 5'4", bubbly, independent woman, love to laugh, socialising with friends, looking for independent man who values TLC. Box 414156

## FOOTBALL FANATIC

Debonair lady, 43, divorced, brunette, green eyes, 5'10", likes going out, pubs, clubs, cinema, shopping, walks, loves films and all sports except cricket. Box 435684

## MEN ONLY, NO MICE!

I'm Jackie, 43, 5'11", blue eyes brown hair, single mum, love going out, reading, cycling, music, enjoy male company and seeking 27-45yr old, for companionship. Box 434076

## BE HERE NOW

44yo, 44, looking for an understanding, sensible man. I enjoy music and being adventurous. Box 431913

## A FINE ROMANCE

Pleasant female, 43, medium/large build, blue/green eyes, grown up children, beach walks, relaxing, reading, with GSOH, seeks sincere male with W/LTM, for LTR. Box 429027

## READ ALL ABOUT IT

Petite, sincere woman, 44, wavy blonde hair, blue eyes, size 10, loves beach walks, animals, DIY, swimming, travelling, W/LTM N/S man to share things with. Box 429682

## LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING NEW PEOPLE

45yo, 45, looking for a fun, works full time, likes horse riding, gardening, walks, socialising, enjoys eating out, cinema, good conversation. Box 435464

## THE EYES HAVE IT

Attractive, trendy, outgoing, warm female, 30, dark brown eyes are a big feature, curvy but slim, like country pubs etc. W/LTM spontaneous male for LTR. Box 430399

## LET'S GET TOGETHER

Hi I'm Paula, 38, 5'4", with a good nature, looking for fun and someone to go out and have a laugh with. Box 433324

## THE WONDER OF YOU

38yr old single mum, slim, long hair, love rock music, concerts, bits, in need of attention, love and respect. Box 897114

## MUST HAVE GSOH

Down-to-earth, kind and caring, separated, strong-willed Scottish mum, 39, looking for fun, tactile, cute and considerate male who likes noise and chaos. Box 897191

## GET IT TOGETHER

Kind, caring, spiritual lady, 38, 5'4", average build, hazel puppy-dog eyes, brown hair, looking for genuine, honest guy, non-smoker, friendship first. Box 899694

## NICE AND LOVING

44yr old female, 5'5", brown hair, slim/medium build, enjoys pubs, clubs, if you are out there, give me a ring! Maidstone Box 413448

## DON'T PASS ME BY

Friendly bubbly fun-loving woman, 45, 5'4", GSOH, enjoys socialising, pubs, music, eating in/out, own homecar, smoker, looking for honest man 44-55, who enjoys life. Box 823441

## NO GAME PLAYERS!

Female, 46, seeks honest, warm, sincere, intelligent, and good-looking male with no hang-ups about kids for friendship and hoping for more. Box 156656

## EASYSOING NATURE

Slm divorced woman, 48, dark brown shoulder length hair, hazel eyes, 5'8", Seeks genuine, thoughtful male, 43-54, slim-medium build, about 5'10 or above. Box 897419

## ALL THAT I NEED

Young-looking, slim attractive female, 48, fun-loving & outgoing, N/S, GSOH, love music, holidays, going out & staying in, seeks similar man, 42-50, Aylesford. Box 428933

## READY TO START AGAIN

Hi, I'm Sue, 48, 5'2", dark hair/eyes, divorced, hard working, W/LTM compatible male, ready to start again, possibly LTR. Box 432992

## DEE DEEPER

Genuine, friendly female, 49, likes walks, gardening, nights in/out, seeking genuine, friendly male, 45-55, Dover Box 435441

## STOP THE SHAKES!

Hello, 49yr old female, 5'10", blonde, easygoing, love music, socialising, simple things in life, seeking a male to offer and settle down with. Box 436633

## FUNNY GIRL

Petite, blonde female, 50, GSOH, likes music, books, films, cooking, looking for romantic soulmate, 40-55, for TLC. Kent. Box 895181

## CUDLY AND TACTILE

Hi Frances a cuddle? 50yo, open-minded, bubbly, very young-at-heart, seeks N/S 40+ gent for lots of loving. Box 436556

## ARE YOU LONESOME TONIGHT?

Lady, bubbly and affectionate, attractive lady, 51, dark hair, enjoys nights in, love animals, seeking a like-minded gent for happiness. Box 435885

## LOVE IS IN THE HAIR!

Sue, 51, slim, blue eyes, brunette, ladies hairdresser, looking for someone special. How about you? Box 431904

## PUTTER IN YOUR HANDS!

Sporty female, 50, Hastings-based, 5'8", blonde/blue, enjoys golf, walking, socialising, eating in/out. W/LTM fun-loving, kind, sporty male, 48-60, 5'10", to share life. Box 163567

## DO YOU SCRUB UP

Modern, professional, classy lady, blonde female, early 50s, 5'4", blonde hair, medium build, enjoys countryside, W/LTM gent, 45-58, smart appearance, for friendship, possible relationship. Box 825500

## ARE WE SOULMATES?

53yr old bubbly lady, 6ft, like meals out, staying in, looking for a caring man to share life's ups and downs. Box 435678

## BEAUTIFUL DAY

54yr female, enjoys home life, going out, pubs, theatre, music, wishing to meet an understanding man, 45-60, to share the good/bad things in life. Box 435468

## DEAL?

Sue, 55yrs young, fit, cuddly, honest, easygoing, GSOH, enjoys reading, films and a glass of wine! seeking like-minded male, Deal area, for friendship, perhaps more! Box 895658

## COUNTRY LIFE

Bubbly, outgoing female, 54, likes pubs, walks, horse riding, country life, seeks genuine gentleman, 48-52, for companionship, friendship, possible LTR. Box 386913

## I DREAM OF DOMESTICITY!

Attractive, homely, caring 55yr old lady, 5'2", slim/medium build, GSOH, good conversationalist, looking for special person to share life's ups and downs with. Faversham. Box 406828

## SAVING ALL MY LOVE

57yr, 5'7" old modern female widow, slim, enjoys nights in/out, socialising, seeking honest, reliable man for friendship, love, affection and TLC. Box 920739

## NOT ASKING FOR MUCH

Fun loving, bubbly, tactile lady, 50s, enjoys the good life, holidays and cosy nights in. I'm voluptuous & looking for a real man. Box 893550

## LIKE TO ENJOY LIFE

Happy-go-lucky female, 57, likes nice walks, pubs/clubs, quite nights in, loves children and animals, seeking an honest, caring man. Box 435308

## LIKES THE NICE THINGS IN LIFE

Divorced female, 50s, 5'4", own home, great job and friends, likes to keep fit, hobbies include shopping, cooking, dining out, theatre/cinema, holidays, seeking friendship and more. Box 434891

## GREETINGS TO THE NEW BRUNETTE

Brunette female, 59, N/S, 5'10", hazel eyes, slim/medium build, enjoys meals out, occasional drinks, gardening. Box 435650

## THE GOOD LIFE

34yr old young-looking, shy at first male, 5'7", medium build, enjoy life to the full, seeks that special someone to share good moments with. Box 435061

## WHAT AM I DOING THIS FOR?

32yr old girl, separated, misses going out and socialising, seeks a lovely lady to join with and have lots of fun, possibly more. Box 435650

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## Women seeking women

### SNAP ME UP

Attractive, feminine female, 37, petite, professional, thoughtful, witty, enjoys socialising, travel, dancing, seeks similar, genuine female, for friendship/relationship. Rochester Box 411186

### PASSIONATE SCORPIO

Cuddly, buxom female, 46, blue eyes, very feminine, loves music, animals, reading, writing, stars, very genuine, meals out, seeking boyish female, who's loving and caring. Box 433152

### WRITTEN IN THE STARS

Capricorn female, 48, 5'7", brown hair, blue eyes, GSOH, caring, animal lover, into DIY, sports, reading, W/LTM some in Maidstone area. Box 435457

### NOT ASKING FOR MUCH

Fun loving, bubbly, tactile lady, 50s, enjoys the good life, holidays and cosy nights in. I'm voluptuous & looking for a real man. Box 893550

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### THE GOOD LIFE

34yr old young-looking, shy at first male, 5'7",



# yourthanettelevision

## PICK OF THE WEEKEND

### BBC one

**SATURDAY: MATCH OF THE DAY (4.55pm):** Heavyweights Manchester United and Arsenal clash on the road to Wembley.  
**SUNDAY: LIFE IN COLD BLOOD (6pm):** Attenborough's latest wildlife extravaganza focuses on the reptiles and amphibians that live in jungles and deserts.

### BBC TWO

**SATURDAY: THE CULTURE SHOW (7pm):** Lauren Laverne presents the weekly arts and culture magazine.  
**SUNDAY: TROPIC OF CANCER (8pm):** Simon Reeve travels along the line of latitude which cuts across South Africa, South America and Australia in this travel documentary.

### itv

**SATURDAY: PRIMEVAL (6.30pm):** The team face a new challenge as a giant Columbian mammoth causes havoc on a busy motorway in broad daylight. All they have to do is catch it and keep it hidden.  
**SUNDAY: DANCING ON ICE (6.25pm):** It's hotting up on the ice as the celebrities battle it out to win the judges' approval and the viewers' vote. The results show starts at 8.45pm.

### 4

**SATURDAY: GRAND DESIGNS (7.15pm):** Further fuelling the DIY boom, the series follows householders as they totally transform their homes.  
**SUNDAY: WIFE SWAP (8pm):** Self-made millionaire Nick Ayton and his wife Debbie swap places with Susan and Roland Gianstefani - Jesus Christians who are also freegans. Sparks will no doubt fly.

### five

**SATURDAY: RENAISSANCE MAN (5.50pm):** Danny DeVito stars in a comedy about a former advertising executive forced to take a temporary job training recruits at an army camp.  
**SUNDAY: THE MAN IN THE IRON MASK (6.30pm):** Leonardo Di Caprio stars in Alexandre Dumas's swashbuckling tale about a plan bringing the Three Musketeers out of retirement in a bid to oust the French king, Louis XIV.

# New decade brings a twist to Life on Mars

BY ANDY WELCH

LIFE ON MARS is one of the most-talked about television shows in recent memory. Managing to satisfy both TV critics and millions of viewers, it achieved what few other programmes ever do.

It ended after only two series, leaving fans begging for more, but John Simm, who played main character DI Sam Tyler, was reluctant to carry on.

Thankfully, the creative minds behind the award-winning formula came up with a new twist on the tale to keep the format going.

The resulting programme is Ashes To Ashes, which sees former Spooks star Keeley Hawes take on the fish-out-of-water role, plus the return of the regulars we grew to love during Life On Mars, most notably DCI Gene Hunt.

"Ashes To Ashes is very much of its own making, it has a completely different feel to Life On Mars," says Philip Glenister, who plays the outspoken copper.

"We didn't want to remake Life On Mars, there'd be no point, so the writers were adamant about making it its own show, and having seen the DVDs of the final show, they were totally right. I was blown over."

It's little wonder he was so impressed. The first episode sees DCI Hunt and sidekicks Chris and Ray tearing along the River Thames in a speedboat, armed with machine guns.

"That's a bit over-the-top, but it was our Miami Vice moment," he says, laughing. "The guy driving the boat was a loon. You just can't let stuntmen loose in speedboats. The director said, 'Come round at a bit of a lick' so he took that to mean going as fast as he could and throwing us about."



HE'S BACK: DCI Gene Hunt returns in Ashes to Ashes, a creative twist to the highly successful Life on Mars

If you're familiar with Life On Mars, the premise of this new series is quite simple.

While Sam Tyler's escapades took place in the Manchester of 1973, Ashes To Ashes transports us to 1981 London, an important year in Glenister's life: "I'd just finished college and was looking for work. I didn't know what, just that I didn't want a 9-5 thing. So I went for a job where you work 8am till 8pm six days a week."

DI Alex Drake (Hawes) is a high-ranking profiler for the Met, and single mother to Molly. After a tense encounter with a criminal who seemingly knows everything about her,

Alex wakes up to find herself 27 years in the past.

Drake has also spent a lot of time in the present reading Sam Tyler's detailed psychiatric report, so she knows all about Gene Hunt and his old-fashioned, hard-drinking ways. Never in a million years did she think she'd come face to face with him, let alone end up working alongside him.

But what's happened to Gene in the seven or eight years since we last saw him keeping Manchester's streets clean in his super-powered Ford Cortina?

"Well, he's not the big honcho of Manchester any more. Gene's now fairly small-fry in the world of the London Met," explains Philip. "He's become more institutionalised I suppose. Gene's journey throughout the series will be interesting. We see a man trying to keep a grip on his old-fashioned style of policing, which is being moved on. He's being left behind a little."

"There's much more of a melancholic feel about him in this series," he continues. "There are hints about his home life which Alex drags out of him, so we learn about his state of mind and where he's at from their conversations."

"The big thing about Gene is that he's an enigma, so the less you know about him the better and it's important to keep that, otherwise he's blown as a character."

It's always a worry with our favourite TV shows that they'll go on too long. Ricky Gervais knew when to call it a day with The Office and Extras, just as John Cleese famously did with Fawlty Towers years previously.

"We all felt Life On Mars had run its natural course, we didn't want to start repeating ourselves. But for Gene, he's become a bit of an iconic character and I was happy to carry on playing him for a bit longer."

**ASHES TO ASHES**  
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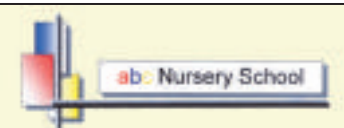
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# yourthanettimeout



## SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

No23

Can you spot the five differences between these two pictures of the platform at Yalding railway station?

Answers to all of this week's **timeout** answers can be found on our website

## YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT



### AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19)

AN interest in the subconscious could prompt you to undergo analysis or read books on the subject. Taking up a sport could prove stimulating this week. You need a healthy outlet for your pent up energies, but you'd be wise not to push yourself too hard during the early stages.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762



### TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21)

TRUST your intuition when it comes to a professional matter. If you're thinking of changing industries this would be a good week. If you're unhappy with the cash initially offered, press for more. Your would-be employer knows your skills and should value them accordingly.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753



### LEO (Jul 24-Aug 23)

YOU have a tendency to put a loved one on a pedestal this week. Although your faith in them is touching, it can lead to trouble. Take care you don't set this relationship up for failure. By recognising and accepting their shortcomings, they'll be less scared of letting you down.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756



### SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)

YOUR home and family could be a welcome retreat this week. If you are struggling to make ends meet you should cast around for a new way forward and check out an unorthodox way to make savings. Someone close has a wacky plan that's not so daft as it might seem.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759



### PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20)

WORKING on developing your unexplored talents is a great idea this week. In the past, you've been modest about your skills, preferring to pursue certain subjects as a hobby or endeavour. The idea of making money from them feels a little odd, but you should think closely about it now.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531763



### GEMINI (May 22-Jun 22)

AN interest in religious lore or foreign practices could prompt you to step out of your comfort zone. Don't be surprised if you make contact with a respected expert in this field. A romance could be in the works here. You'll have to take the initiative, since you're more daring.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754



### VIRGO (Aug 24-Sep 23)

CREATIVE work is good for you this week. Instead of relying on logic, let intuition be your guide. Moving forward as though obstacles don't exist brings exciting breakthroughs. An individual has faith in you, and may want you to take a promotion. You will rise to this challenge.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757



### SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21)

YOU could hear intriguing news about a relative, neighbour, or friend. Making more time for your nearest and dearest will lift your spirits. If you're looking for love, you could find it at a park or sporting event. The object of your affection shares your love for the great outdoors.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760



### ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20)

STOP telling yourself you have no imagination. You can develop incredible techniques if you practice. Be upfront if you aim to make a breakthrough with anyone trying to push you into a decision you don't want to make. A short trip to see a male friend could be in the cards this week.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752



### CANCER (Jun 23-Jul 23)

A ROMANTIC relationship helps you look at life through rose-coloured glasses. You're strongly attracted to someone who has their own individual sense of style. Working behind the scenes may be more profitable than taking on a more prominent position.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755



### LIBRA (Sep 24-Oct 23)

AN idyllic romance puts a spring in your step. There's no better morale booster than falling in love. Taking up a spiritual or philosophical pursuit could prove rewarding. Intellectual stimulation is as essential as food and drink to you so boost your brainpower now.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Libra** 09067-531758



### CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20)

FINDING imaginative ways to make money appeals to your sense of adventure. If your energy levels droop, it may be time to revise your health regimen. Improving your diet and increasing your aerobic activity will help you cope with the demanding days ahead.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

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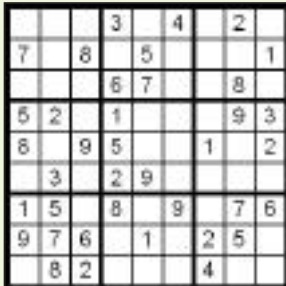
## CROSSWORD & SUDOKU

No23

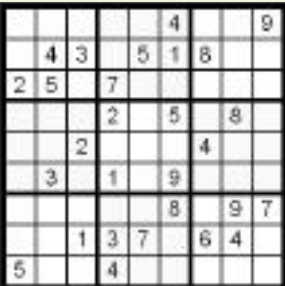
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Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9

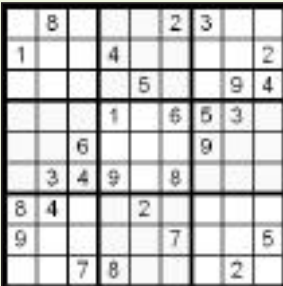
EASY



MEDIUM



HARD



### CRYPTIC CLUES

#### ACROSS

- 1 Leave suddenly from French shelter (6)
- 4 Spoil line of vegetable (6)
- 10 Noted sliding movement? (9)
- 11 During the meal, terrific change (5)
- 12 Satisfy us returning very loudly at the rink (7)
- 13 Small creature coming from top, lead off (7)
- 14 Horsemanship of squire, I am sent all over the place (13)
- 16 Deception in duplicate bridge? (6-7)
- 21 Certainly not a full-blooded complaint (7)
- 22 Astronomical instrument was brown in the street (7)
- 24 Penny had slight sprain and puncture (5)
- 25 Colin loth to produce item of clothing (9)
- 26 Being successful heartlessly when drinking (6)
- 27 Plant a new tree (6)

#### DOWN

- 1 Take in the summary (6)
- 2 Main leader (5)
- 3 Young lady, I have the letter (7)
- 5 A wicked fellow's destination? (7)
- 6 So atropin could be administered for killing rodents (3-6)
- 7 Closer to discovery nearer the fire (6)
- 8 It's not above-board to be very drunk (5,3,5)
- 9 Vessel holding vessels (9,4)
- 15 Estimated price for bit of Shakespeare perhaps (9)
- 17 Impact family made on rustic fellow (7)
- 18 Law 1 state relating to vocabulary (7)
- 19 Handles the fruit (6)
- 20 Ethnic disturbance on the river in Hampshire (6)
- 23 A fit, more or less (5)

### SCRIBBLE HERE



### QUICK CLUES

#### ACROSS

- 1 Developed (6)
- 4 Food container (6)
- 10 Discover (9)
- 11 Cloth from flax (5)
- 12 Libyan port (7)
- 13 Friendly understanding (7)
- 14 Weighing instrument (6,7)
- 16 Sausages in batter (4-2-3-4)
- 21 Spanish painter (7)
- 22 Oval (7)
- 24 Treachery (5)
- 25 Soaking (9)
- 26 Agreement (6)
- 27 Setter (anag.) (6)

#### DOWN

- 1 Attractiveness (6)
- 2 Spherical bacteria (5)
- 3 Wireless pioneer (7)
- 5 Striped cotton fabric (7)
- 6 Ecclesiastical (9)
- 7 Think over (6)
- 8 Progressing (6,7)
- 9 Did not reach one's full potential (13)
- 15 Ostracise (9)
- 17 Tressed (anag.) (7)
- 18 Witch (7)
- 19 Small peg (6)
- 20 Elevation (6)
- 23 Award (5)

## LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

EASY



MEDIUM



HARD



**SPOT THE DIFFERENCE No 22:** 1) Crest missing from front of house 2) Letter 'N' missing 3) Star erased from sign 4) Word 'Toilet' taken out 5) Red stripes on beach hut have been turned purple.

### CRYPTIC SOLUTIONS No22

**ACROSS:** 8 River 9 Repel 10 Antitoxic 11 Sinus 12 Living language 15 Pour 17 Yobbo 19 Edge 21 Current account 23 Sisal 24 Crumbling 26 Ionic 27 Attrition. **DOWN:** 1 Simmel 2 Believer 3 Attorney 4 Deli 5 Presage 6 Spaniard 7 Plastered 13 Libya 14 Spacesuit 16 Uprising 18 Once more 19 Equality 20 Hemlock 22 Tensor 25 Rote.

### QUICK SOLUTIONS No23

**ACROSS:** 1 Became 4 Eggcup 10 Ascertained 16 Road-in-the-hole 21 Picasso 22 Elipse 11 Lumen 12 Trough 13 Entrée 14 Spring bed 24 Galle 25 Drenching 26 Treaty 27 Street. **DOWN:** 15 Underscore 17 Proscenium 18 Helical 19 Spigot 20 Height 23 Prize.

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## ON GENERAL RELEASE

### THE DIVING BELL AND THE BUTTERFLY (12A)



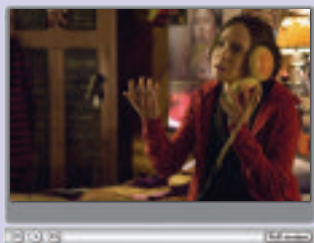
At the age of 43, Jean-Dominique Bauby, editor-in-chief of French magazine *Elle*, suffered a stroke, he awoke to find himself the victim of locked-in syndrome – mentally alert, but only able to communicate by blinking his left eye. Bauby was taught an alphabet which unlocked the prison of his body which he called his 'diving bell' and gave him freedom that he called 'the butterfly'.

### THE ACCIDENTAL HUSBAND (PG)



Emma is a relationship expert with a hit radio show. She is serious and sensible about love and gives advice to women on how to find the right man without wasting time on the wrong ones. But matters of the heart are never as clean-cut as Emma believes them to be.

### JUNO (12A)



Juno is a smart teen confronting an unplanned pregnancy by her classmate Paul Bleeker. Luckily, Juno has the total support of her parents as she faces some tough decisions, flirts with adulthood and ultimately figures out where she belongs.

# UK home is a real treasure

■ BY BEN FALK

NICOLAS CAGE is an international film star, so you'd expect him to jet into Britain for an interview from his yacht in Monte Carlo, or his beach pad in Malibu. Instead, he arrives at a London hotel from the celeb-packed town of Bath.

It just so happens that Nic is a gigantic Anglophile and has all but moved his family to Britain, as well as purchasing a run-down castle in Bavaria.

"I genuinely like the English weather," he says, without a hint of irony. "I like the rain, I like the gloomy clouds. Plus, I've never had much luck with my allergies and sinuses and the rain keeps the pollen count down, so I feel healthier and can breathe better."

His desire to give young son Kal-El (whose mother is Cage's wife Alice and who was named by his comic-book geek Dad after the real Krypton name of Superman) a European-style education, means the star has been spending less and less time in his homeland. It's a habit exacerbated by his latest movie – the sequel *National Treasure: Book of Secrets* – which is set mostly in Paris and London.

"I want to make it increasingly International Treasure," he explains. "I want to go everywhere."

The film, which is, surprisingly, Nic's first-ever sequel, once again follows the exploits of Benjamin Gates – a history buff and explorer. This time around, Gates finds himself having to exonerate an ancestor who has been implicated in Abraham Lincoln's assassination.

It's a fairly threadbare plot, but being a Hollywood blockbuster, it more than makes up for it with break-ins to Buckingham Palace, the kidnapping of the President, the introduc-

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tion of Dame Helen Mirren as Gates' mother and a mind-blowing car chase around the streets of London.

More importantly, the film – which has just climbed over the \$200 million mark at the US box office – gives Nic a chance to indulge in one of his biggest interests, history.

"I think what I like about old things is that if you are in the presence of it and you use a little bit of imagination it feels as if you can time travel in some way," he says.

"You can feel or recall the events of the past and think about things that have happened there and hopefully get some inspiration."

Indeed, he reveals that he particularly loves Somerset, because it "emanates spirits" and "ancient history".

There are so far no plans for *National Treasure 3*, with Nic instead focusing on upcoming roles in Far East-flavoured action flick *Bangkok Dangerous* and *G-Force*, in which he provides the voice for a specially-



**PART TWO:** *Book of Secrets* is surprisingly Nicolas Cage's first sequel. It was filmed in England, a country the star loves so much that he has chosen to live here

trained guinea pig who is dispatched on a top-secret, world-saving mission.

He hopes to direct again too; his debut, *Sonny*, came out way back in 2002. "I have some ideas and I will in the next two years direct my next feature," he says, confirming that he will also star.

"That seems to be the unfortunate reality of actors trying to become film makers, is that we have to cast ourselves, otherwise we can't get money to make the movie."

**NATIONAL TREASURE:  
BOOK OF SECRETS**  
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BOOK OF SECRETS** (PG)  
• (2pm Not Fri, 5pm, 8pm)  
CENTURY SCREEN  
**NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN** (15)  
• (3.20 Wed, 8.40 sharp)  
**THE WATER HORSE** (PG)  
• (12.45 Not Fri, (3.20 Not Fri, Wed), 6pm)  
BIJOU SCREEN  
**IN THE VALLEY OF ELAH** (15)  
• 8.25  
**LA VIE EN ROSE** (12A)  
• 5.15 sharp - subtitled  
**ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS** (U)  
• (3pm Not Fri) sharp  
**BEE MOVIE** (U)  
• Sun, Tues, Thurs (1pm\*) sharp  
**ENCHANTED** (PG)  
• Sat, Mon, Wed (12.30\*) sharp  
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## PROPERTY NEWS

### Housing stock triples in value over decade

A SURVEY from Halifax estimates that the value of the UK's private housing stock rose by 9 per cent – almost £320 billion – in 2007 to a record £4 trillion (the equivalent of £4,000bn).

This means the value of the housing stock has more than tripled over the past decade, rising by 208 per cent from £1.3 trillion in 1997.

The value of the private housing stock was 3.4 times the value of outstanding mortgage debt of £1.2 trillion at the end of 2007.

Ten years ago, private sector housing assets were three times higher than mortgage debt.

In 2007 the value of housing assets in the south was £2.2bn compared with £1.8bn of housing assets in the north.

The south's share of the UK housing assets held steady at 55 per cent in 2007, while the share of the North was 45 per cent.

However, the north-south housing wealth gap has narrowed over the past five years. The south accounted for 61 per cent in 2002 and the north for 39 per cent.

### Interest cut a balm to mortgage holders

LAST week's Bank of England interest rate cut has been cautiously welcomed by the property market – amid calls for further reductions early in the spring.

At its monthly meeting the monetary policy committee announced the base rate of interest would be cut by 25 basis points – down from 5.5 per cent to 5.25 per cent.

The move is likely to act as a balm to pressurised mortgage holders, according to some commentators.

"This is great news, particularly following the latest price report from the Halifax, which confirmed prices held steady again in January," said Peter Ford, regional director for Townends estate agents.

"Money is now becoming cheaper to borrow, which means buyers who previously could not have afforded to buy, may well be tempted back into the market and those with properties to sell are able to be more flexible – which will help with their onward purchase."

# Falling prices 'are just a market correction'

■ BY NICK AMES

PROPERTY prices are slowly falling across the UK, with new figures revealing the average fall-off was 0.3 per cent in January.

The report, compiled by the Centre for Economics and Business Research, draws on data from a variety of sources to provide the most accurate snapshot of the UK property market.

Property experts Chesterton organise the poll, which takes on board all the data available across the market. It is regarded as the most accurate barometer of trends by most participants in the field.

Douglas McWilliams, chief executive of CEPR, said: "The data is confirming UK house prices are edging down. Our current economic view suggests that it is unlikely there will be a house price collapse."

"It is more likely that there will be a re-adjustment in the market, following high house price growth of more than 5 per cent per annum over the last decade."

Mr McWilliams said the slowdown in the housing market can be seen across the board, for all property types and in all regions, but the top end of the housing market continues to grow robustly.

Areas such as Kensington and Chelsea rose more than 24 per cent in the last year – more than four times that recorded in most other parts of the country.

However, the average price of a property held by a retired person dropped for the first time since June 2005.

Robert Bartlett, Chesterton chief executive officer, said: "While the figures show property prices fell slightly over January, the reality is that prices are undergoing a correction."

"We believe property prices will remain flat to negative two per cent through to spring, but with a reduced number of transactions."

"London's high-end property market has continued to achieve strong growth with substantial prices still being realised."

"Property analysts will be watching very closely over the month ahead to see what impact the non-domicile tax changes will have on the property market and the wider economy."

"I think these figures show that now is the perfect time to buy. There is a wide range of properties on the market and bargains to be had."



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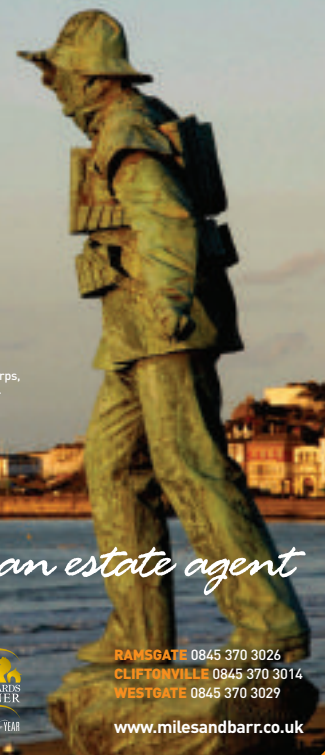


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- Double Glazing • Enclosed Rear Garden
- 1/2 Mile To Cliff Top • Garage En Block
- Designated Parking Space • Palm Bay Location



**Ramsgate** £185,000

- Extended 4 Semi Detached • Kitchen/Diner & Lounge
- Bathroom/WC • Shower Room/WC
- Potential For Osparking • D/glazed & G/heating
- Rear Garden With Patio • Viewing Recommended



**Garlinge** £197,500

- 2 Double Bedrooms • Stunning Presentation
- Beautiful Farmland Views
- Modern Fitted Kitchen • Modern Bathroom
- ORP 4-5 Cars • Garage



**Kingsgate** £227,000

- Two Bedrooms • Double Glazing
- Gas Fired Central Heating
- Conservatory • Enclosed Rear Garden
- Off Street Parking • Garage • Vacant Possession



**Ramsgate** £229,995

- Character Property • 4 Bedrooms
- Sea Views • No Chain • Fantastic Location
- Short Walk To The Harbour
- Potential For Osp • Must See



**Birchington** £249,950

- Dont Miss This! • 3 Beds, Ensuite To Master
- 28Ft Lounge/Diner • Newly Installed Kitchen
- Downstairs WC • 70Ft Garden
- Close To Eppe Bay! • Chain Free!



**Birchington** £309,995

- Detached Family Home • Three Double Bedrooms
- Bathroom • Shower Room
- Seaviews • Osp 4 Cars And Garage
- 24Ft Lounge/diner

**RAMSGATE OFFICE**  
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Ramsgate, Kent CT11 8PN  
**01843 851777**

**BIRCHINGTON OFFICE**  
27 Station Road,  
Birchington, Kent CT7 9DJ  
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**4 Bedroom Victorian Terraced House**

- Four Storeys
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Sea Views

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**£254,950**



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RAMSGATE £320,000

**Prestigious Location**

- Four Bedrooms
- Versatile Accommodation
- Original Features
- Fitted Kitchen

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**£320,000**



**FOR SALE**  
RAMSGATE £155,000

**3 Bedroom Victorian Terraced House**

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- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Double Glazing

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- Investment

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**Two Bedrooms**

- Living Area
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- Close To Sea

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**FOR SALE**  
MARGATE £144,995

**Two Bedrooms**

- End Of Terrace
- Conservation Area
- GFCH
- Double Glazing

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**£144,995**



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BROADSTAIRS £269,950

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- Three Bedrooms
- Detached
- Conservatory
- 80ft Garden

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**£269,950**



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- Reception Area
- Fully Fitted Kitchen Area
- Utility Room

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**£159,995**



**FOR SALE**  
BROADSTAIRS £349,995

**Reception/Diner**

- Fitted Kitchen
- Master Bedroom En-suite
- Study
- Bathroom

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**Birchington**

- 5 bedroom detached

.....£630,000



**Minnis Bay**

- Superb private road location
- Executive detached home with sea views
- Simply stunning accomodation 4 beds 3 bathrooms

.....£595,000



**Westbrook**

- Stunning 6 Bedroom Detached House
- Minutes From Seafront & Beach
- Heated Indoor Swimming Pool

.....OIEO £400,000



**Birchington**

- 2 bed former coach house
- Potential to extend subject to the usual consents
- Superb residential location

.....£364,995



**Westbrook**

- Impressive 4 Bedroom Detached House
- Sought After Location
- Must Be Seen Inside

.....£350,000



**Minnis Bay**

- Extended 2 double bedroom detached bungalow
- Private sunny rear garden. Close to the sea front
- Pleasant cul-de-sac location. MUST BE VIEWED

.....£310,000



**Minnis Bay**

- 3 bedroom detached chalet house
- Summer house & hot tub to remain
- Superb residential location

.....£310,000



**Westbrook**

- Stunning 5 Bed family home
- Great original features
- Poss No Onward Chain

.....OIEO £300,000



**Minster**

- Deceiving 3 dble bedroom home, conservatory
- Tastefully designed throughout, offering no chain
- Approx 140' garden plus workshop

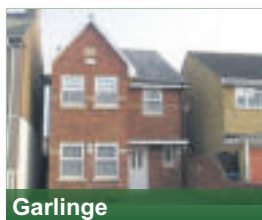
.....£279,000



**Westbrook**

- Stunning Period Home Fine Features Retained
- Beautifully Presented & Close to Sandy Beaches
- No Forward Chain

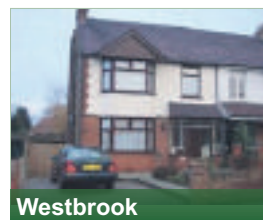
.....£275,000



**Garlinge**

- Viewing Essential
- 5 Bed Detached House
- Massive Rooms, approx 90' rear garden

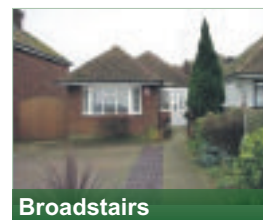
.....OIEO £275,000



**Westbrook**

- Excellent 4 Bedroom Family Home
- Close to beach, shops, park, pool & schools
- NO FORWARD CHAIN

.....OIEO £250,000



**Broadstairs**

- Beautifully presented
- Extended detached bungalow
- Three bedrooms

.....£249,995



**Birchington**

- Lovely Detached Bungalow
- 2 Bedroom, Established Enc Rear Garden
- Very Central Location

.....OIEO £236,000



**St Nicholas at Wade**

- 2/3 bedrooms, good size living accomodation
- Fantastic views over fields to the front
- Offering no chain & good size rear garden

.....OIEO £230,000



**Westbrook**

- Sought after Westbrook
- 4 Bedroom Semi Detached
- Off Street Parking

.....£225,000



**Westgate**

- Stunning ground floor apartment
- 2 Beds master en-suite
- Communal pool, hot tub & gardens

.....£224,995



**Westgate**

- A modern 3 bedroom end terrace home
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**01227 749944**

Birchington  
**01843 842233**



**Broadstairs**

- Detached bungalow
- Two bedrooms
- Integral Garage

.....£214,950



**Kingsgate**

- Brand new development
- Luxuriously appointed apartments
- 200 yards from cliff top walks

.....From £199,500



**Westbrook**

- 4 Bedroom Character Home
- Close to Beach & Amenities
- Internal Viewing Essential

.....£185,000



**Palm Bay**

- Fantastic bungalow
- 2 Bedrooms
- No chain

.....£182,000



**Cliftonville**

- 5 Bedrooms
- Needs Some Work
- No Chain

.....£180,000



**Margate**

- 3 Bed New Home in Gated Development
- Parking, Gardens
- Oak Floors, Granite Work Surfaces

.....£177,950



**St Peters**

- Three bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- Nicely presented

.....£175,000



**Garlinge**

- 3 Bedroom Semi with Garage
- Vacant Possession
- Popular Peaceful Location

.....OIEO £170,000



**Margate**

- Garage
- En-suite shower room
- Two reception rooms

.....OIEO £165,000



**Margate**

- Three bedrooms
- Garage
- Viewing recommended

.....£155,000



**Margate**

- Close to Margate Hospital & Dane Park
- Sought After Location
- Attractive Easy Maintenance Gardens

.....£154,995



**Margate**

- Exceptional condition
- Two Bedrooms
- Two reception rooms

.....£152,500



**Margate**

- Two bedrooms
- Kitchen/Diner
- Huge garden & Off street parking

.....£143,950



**Margate**

- 2 Bedroom Self Contained Flat
- Garden & Parking to Rear
- Vacant-Keys at Margate

.....£109,995



**Cliftonville**

- Direct Sea Views
- Two bedrooms
- Balcony

.....£95,000



**Cliftonville**

- One bedroom
- Ground floor
- No chain

.....£89,995



**Cliftonville**

- Own front door & garden
- Good size accommodation
- Close to the sea

.....OIEO £80,000



**Property of the Week – Cliftonville**

- Four bedrooms
- En-suite to master
- Integral garage

.....£230,000



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A street scene at St Augustine's Park

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**RAMSGATE ROAD** - Ground floor flat with own garden.

**ALBERT ROAD (RAMSGATE)** - 1st and top floor flat. Off Street Parking.

**GODWIN ROAD** - Clean modern flat, kitchen/lounge over looking garden

**KING STREET** - Maisonette with stunning shower room.

**BRIDGE HOUSE** - King Street. Self contained and loads of storage

**HAROLD ROAD** - Brand new development. Close to shops and seafront

**VICTORIA ROAD** - Brand new development. Some with gardens and parking

**ETHELBERT TERRACE** - Great views. Recently refurbished

**HAROLD ROAD** - Studio flat. Good sized room. Fitted kitchen and garden

**HAWLEY SQUARE** - Period house with beautiful communal areas

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**DALBY SQUARE** - Wonderful property containing two Bed flats with parking at rear.

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Advertorial

# A village by the sea

Award winning housebuilder Millwood Designer Homes has the perfect solution for any homebuyer looking for the pinnacle in coastal living, with its new development, Upton Grange, in Broadstairs, Kent.

This select collection of just eleven 4 and 5 bedroom detached family homes is set on a secluded cul-de-sac. The homes at Upton Grange have been designed to seamlessly blend into the existing local architecture and feature traditional Kentish exteriors, which creates the impression of a well-established development.

## Show Home launch coming soon...

Millwood are delighted to announce the opening of their new Show Home at Upton Grange, with the launch weekend on 9th and 10th February. Discerning purchasers are urged to view the Show Home, at the development, a four bedroom property with a stunning bay window to the front of the house, two bedrooms with an en-suite bathroom and integral garage. Furthermore, the Show Home highlights Millwood's award winning specification.

Interior at Upton Grange



## The Jewel in Thanet's crown...

Broadstairs is a coveted seaside location, and offers something for everyone with seven glorious beaches, clifftop walks and a superb shopping district, which offer a variety of high street stores and boutiques. Situated just two miles from Margate and Ramsgate, Broadstairs has all the advantages of a seaside town whilst also being largely unspoilt. The town is steeped in history from its roots in shipbuilding and smuggling, to Charles Dickens writing some of his most famous works there.



A street scene at Upton Grange

## Excellent connections...

Professionals are well served by Broadstairs train station, which is easily accessible and offers services to London in less than two hours. Families will also find the location of Upton Grange ideal, as it is close to several excellent schools.

The A299 (Thanet Way) provides links to the M2, and the A256 leads to Sandwich and Dover, which are just under 10 miles away and 17 miles away, respectively. Kent International Airport is also close.

## A chance to view...

Prices start from £440,000, for more information please contact the Marketing Suite and Show Home open daily 10am to 5pm on 01843 862301

Upton Grange, Vale road (off Fair Street), Broadstairs, CT10 2NS

Prices correct at time of going to print.

Broadstairs



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## MOTORS NEWS



### Marathon man Francis

INVICTA Motors Ford technician Francis Davis is hunting sponsorship for the London Marathon on April 13.

Canterbury-based Francis is running the equivalent of half marathons weekly as training but, having completed the gruelling London challenge before, is well aware of the dreaded 'wall' that affects most entrants.

"You just have to keep going and a good cause helps," said Francis, who needs £1,500 to cover entry and would love to add more for his chosen charity, Asthma UK.

To back Francis's marathon, phone him at Invicta 01227 762777.



### Omissions are big deal

BARRETT'S Land Rover in Ashford plans to offset all CO<sub>2</sub> emissions produced by the dealership throughout 2008.

The Orbital Park dealership made the pledge as part of Land Rover's wider 'Our Planet' initiative highlighting the brand's bid to cut its impact on the environment.

Dealer principal Mark Nicholas said: "Our contribution will build on other projects around the world that Land Rover is investing in and I would encourage everybody to visit [www.landrover.co.uk/ourplanet](http://www.landrover.co.uk/ourplanet) and see for themselves what initiatives Land Rover is involved in."



### Canterbury site comes up trumps with award

DUTTON FORSHAW in Broad Oak Road, Canterbury, has won a coveted Sales Centre of the Year trophy from Dodge Chrysler Jeep.

The site's dealer principal Lynne Kennard said: "2007 was one of the busiest years ever for our all-American brands, thanks to the launch of six new models that encompassed everything from 4x4s (Jeep Patriot pictured) and SUVs to saloons and an estate car."

The award is judged nationwide on customer satisfaction, new and used sales and overall dealership operation.



**JUST AN ILLUSION:** With the seats removed it is easy to see why Skoda's Roomster will appeal to the outdoor type, giving ample room for three bikes and masses of gear

# Roomster with a view changes look of MPVs

ONCE derided for Iron Curtain flakiness, everyone should know by now that Skoda produces robust yet keenly priced VW clones.

But the distinctive Roomster MPV (multi-purpose vehicle) shows Skoda starting to do its own thing. This in-house amalgamation uses front underpinnings from a Fabia (VW Polo) married to the rear of an Octavia (VW Golf).

The result is a 'car of two halves' in more than the engineering sense: firstly a car-like front and tidier handling rather than the higher driving position and potential wooliness on cornering of many standard MPVs. Secondly, a rear end that seems as capacious as rivals like the Vauxhall Meriva.

Admittedly, there is less visual harmony between the two halves; the narrow aircraft-style cockpit windows look incongruous against the huge glazed rear 'living room'.

The interior is more typical Skoda: quality mainstream with durable materials, well arranged controls and switches – including an iPod socket. It might lack French sparkle and

## ROAD TEST SKODA ROOMSTER

BY STEVE LOADER

### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

flair, but should last and maintain Skoda's superiority in customer satisfaction polls.

The steering is nicely weighted for parking and driving pleasure and the car not only grips well on cornering, but also maintains the flatter profile that makes it such a powerful rival to conventional small MPVs.

Refinement is not its strongest suit though and tends to be amplified by the big airy rear cabin. 'Varioflex' rear seating divides into three individual folding and removable units, though the outer pair are quite hefty, while the middle one is child-size only and more likely to be folded down as an armrest with cupholders.

With seats removed, you see why the Roomster appeals to sporting types – three bikes and masses of gear can be carried safely and securely. If you love the outdoor life, a panoramic sunroof (£550) will let in more light and it has highly effective blinds.

Pick of the engines? The 1.9-litre VW turbodiesel version and the 1.4 petrol as tested here. Performance of the latter is not blistering, but delivers excellent fuel consumption even if you exploit the car's handling talents. The 1.2 petrol entry option is too gutless.



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## 2005 (55) Ford Mondeo 2.0 Zetec 5-door

- Tonic Metallic
- Climate Control
- Alloy Wheels
- Front Fog Lights
- Cruise Control

# £7,995

Deposit	£1500
Amount of Credit	£6,495
Total Charge for Credit	£1156.11
Total Amount Payable	£9,151.11
48 Monthly Payments of	£159

**8.9% APR Typical**

### ST/SPORT

2006 (56) FIESTA ST 2.0 3 DOOR  
Performance Blue, Full Leather, ESP, Climate Control,  
Auto Lights, 1 Owner, 10,000 miles **£10,895**

2007 (07) MONDEO 2.5 PETROL TURBO TITANIUM 4  
DOOR Panther Black, DVD Navigation, Alcantara  
Leather, 1 Owner, 6,000 miles **£19,995**

2006 (06) FOCUS 2.5 ST-2 5 DOOR  
Performance Blue, Dual Climate Control, 1 Owner,  
11,500 miles **£14,995**

### HATCHBACK

2005 (55) MONDEO 2.0 ZETEC 5 DOOR  
Tonic Blue, Air Conditioning, 1 Owner,  
22,500 miles **£7,995**

2005 (55) FIESTA 1.25 ZETEC CLIMATE 5 DOOR  
Tonic Metallic, Air Conditioning, Facelift model,  
5,000 miles **£6,995**

2007 (56) FOCUS 1.6 SPORT 5 DOOR  
Tonic, Air Conditioning, 1 Owner, 13,000 miles **£8,795**

2005 (05) FIESTA 1.25 ZETEC AC 3 DOOR  
Colorado Red, Air Conditioning, 1 Owner,  
22,000 miles **£5,995**

2006 (56) MONDEO 2.0 16V GHIA 5 DOOR  
Panther Black, Climate Control, Cruise Control,  
12,500 miles **£10,495**

2005 (54) FOCUS 1.6 GHIA 5 DOOR  
Moondust Silver, Air Conditioning, Alloy Wheels,  
26,000 miles **£6,995**

2003 (03) FIESTA 1.4 LX AC 3 DOOR  
Vitro Metallic, Air Conditioning, CD Player,  
35,000 miles **£4,595**

2005 (54) FIESTA 1.4 LX AC 5 DOOR  
Moondust Silver, Heated Front Screen, Air Conditioning,  
23,000 miles **£5,995**

2005 (55) KA 1.3 DESIGN 3 DOOR  
Sublime, CD Player, Electric Windows,  
10,000 miles **£4,595**

2005 (54) MONDEO 1.8 LX 5 DOOR  
Stardust Silver, Air Conditioning, 37,000 miles **£6,490**

### AUTOMATIC

2005 (55) FOCUS 1.6 LX AUTOMATIC 5 DOOR  
Tonic Metallic, Air Conditioning, 19,000 miles **£7,995**

2005 (55) MONDEO 2.0 16V AUTOMATIC 5 DOOR  
Kelp Green Metallic, Air Conditioning, Cruise Control,  
26,000 miles **£7,995**

2007 (07) FIESTA 1.6 AUTO GHIA 5 DOOR  
Moondust Silver, Leather Interior, 1 Owner,  
9,500 miles **£9,995**

### DIESEL HATCHBACK

2007 (56) MONDEO 2.0TDCi (115ps) EDGE 5 DOOR  
Tonic Metallic, Air Conditioning, Alloys, 1 Owner,  
15,000 miles **£9,995**

2006 (56) FIESTA 1.6TDCi ZETEC CLIMATE 5 DOOR  
Panther Black, Air Conditioning, 1 Owner,  
10,000 miles **£8,695**

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<b>Standard Service</b>	£99	£149	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓
<b>Full Service</b>	£149	£199	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

This offer applies to vehicles 4 years or older that are 4 cylinder petrol or diesel up to a 2.0 engine and excludes turbo/ST derivatives.

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Vehicles must be ordered and collected before 29th February 2008 and are subject to availability. This supersedes all previous advertised offers. Finance applicants must be 18 or over and it is subject to status, terms and conditions. Guarantees/indemnities may be required. Written quotations available on request.



## USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

### FAMILY HOLDALLS

MPVs have stolen sales from more traditional sectors of the motor market, but do people gain enough extra space at the cost of less driver satisfaction, higher purchase prices and boring styling? Fact is, you can have much of what a used MPV offers by checking out second-hand conventional estate cars. Admittedly, one of our contenders here is seen more as an MPV, but we make no apology – the well-built Ford C-Max drives so well that it feels more like a car and yet has MPV space and flexibility.

**carsforkent.co.uk**

#### FORD C-MAX



HISTORY will show that this was a pivotal model for Ford. The C-Max has proved to be the first 'driver's MPV' even if it was criticised for lacking the seven seats of the rival Vauxhall Zafira. However, the virtues of looks, excellent build and excellent yet affordable high spec models can be added to good handling. With jointly developed and smoother diesels from Ford's partnership with Peugeot-Citroën, it can also compete with anything for smoothness, economy and power.

##### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

#### SKODA OCTAVIA



If you have not yet woken to used Skoda bargains, smell the coffee now with one of the best – the stylish estate spin-off from the brand's own wake-up model, the Octavia. Mark 1 and 2s are now on the used market and diesels are the pick, though petrols can be bargains and the scorching vRS will put a smile on the face. The Octavia estate's real ace though is space within the modest dimensions of a VW Golf-based platform.

##### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

#### VAUXHALL VECTRA



YOU could be forgiven for thinking we would recommend the Vectra estate here, but that is a truly massive car using a longer wheelbase. Its hatchback sister is more plentiful and deceptively spacious. With a huge rear opening, large boot and folding rear seats, this is all the load lugger most families need and an SRi or similar spec with alloys looks good without costing huge amounts. Fiat-derived 1.9 diesel examples are the pick for low down power and economy.

##### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

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7 seat Captiva LT from £19,995  
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Available at participating retailers only. Not available in conjunction with any other offers. Car shown includes metallic paint at £400. \*Saving comprises of vehicle illustrated in Zest Brown fitted with Edge Styling pack at £2600 inc VAT and fitting at £51 / hour against normal OTR price of £24,140. The purchase price point is based on MY07 only. Prices correct at time of going to press. Offer is available while stocks last. (Chev37084) (Chev37084)

Official Government Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km). Captiva 2.0 VCDi LT 7-Seat Manual: Urban – 32.1 (8.8), Extra Urban – 41.5 (6.8), Combined – 37.1 (7.6). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 197g/km.

## ALFA ROMEO

**147**, JTD Lusso, abs (anti-lock brakes), alloy wheels, cloth rear seat belt, climate control, cloth interior, cruise control, seat height adjustment, trip computer, metallic sterling grey, 44000 miles, £9995, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

**156**, 1.8 T SPARK, 2000 (v), 67759 miles red, 4 door saloon, pas, abs, air bag, passenger air bag, electric sunroof, alarm, immobiliser, stereo, metallic burgandy, only £2795, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

## AUDI

**A2**, SE 5dr, climate control, remote alarm, remote central locking, power steering, electric front windows, electric mirrors, abs, twin air bags, adjustable steering column, retractable headrests, anti-theft system, folding rear seats, cloth upholstery, rear headrests, radio cassette, uk specification, uk supplied, 16" alloys, aluminium silver, 66440 miles, £5989, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

**TT** 1.8, QUATTRO, 2000, silver, 57947 miles, £9995, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

## BENTLEY

**CONTINENTAL GT**, 2005, umbrin red met with saddle leather interior, 28000 miles, £64950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

## BMW

**3 SERIES**, 316i SE 3dr alarm, remote central locking, rear headrests, cloth upholstery, silver, 71000 miles, £6995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

## CADILLAC

**CTS**, cts 3.6 sport luxury v6, 2005, light platinum with black leather, 22379 miles, £14950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

## CHEVROLET

**KALOS**, 1.4 SX, 24637, finished in poly silver with grey interior manual, grey, 0 miles, £5995, Caffyns Tunbridge Wells Vauxhall, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

## CHRYSLER

**CROSSFIRE**, 3.2 auto coupe, 2004, black with two tone grey leather, 17000 miles, £12950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

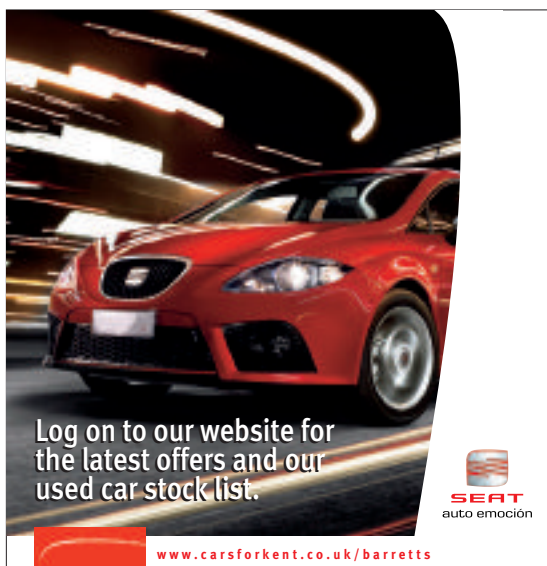
**NEON**, 2.0 LXI, 1995 (n), automatic, 5 door saloon, metallic green coachwork with contrasting grey velour trim, metallic green, low mileage miles, £1695, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)



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## FORD

**FIESTA**, 1.6 Style 3dr Auto, adjustable seats, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group 7, blue, 468 miles, £7990, SMC Ford Crayford, Crayford, 0845 3891135 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.6 Zetec S 3dr, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, passenger airbag, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports seats, insurance group 7, black, 7355 miles, £9990, SMC Ford Crayford, Crayford, 0845 3891135 (TRADE)

## HYUNDAI

**GETZ**, GSI, 4d, tax jul 08, vgc, abs, alarm, cd player, c/locking, e/windows, p/steering, 1 years manufacturers warranty, silver, 22000 miles, £3490, Kent, 07841 872032 (PRIVATE)

## JAGUAR

**S-TYPE**, SE, foldback electric mirrors, bluetooth telephone connectivity, alloy full size spare, headlamp power wash, heated front screen, heated front seats, leather steering wheel, memory function, cd tuner, chrome grille surround, cruise control, dynamic stability control, electric heated door mirrors, electric seats, electric steering column, electronic park brake, midnight, 6000 miles, £27790 0000, Barretts Jaguar (Canterbury), Canterbury, 0845 3709766 (TRADE)

## MERCEDES

**C CLASS**, C220 Cdi, 503649, mercedes-benz c class c220 cdi 3dr auto maza maza Maidstone drake & fletcher red, 2001, 44000 miles, automatic, diesel, 3 doors, 2 previous owners, red, £8489, Drake and Fletcher Mazda, Maidstone, 0845 130 3275 (TRADE)

## MG

**MGF**, 1.8, 1997, met green, 41420 miles, £2795, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

## MINI

**COOPER**, 1.6 3dr, fp54gao, multi-disc cd player, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, electric front windows, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, immobiliser, central locking, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, height adjustable seat, retractable headrests, folding rear seats, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, power steering, trip computer, front fog lamps, automatic electric windows, radio, stereo, cd player, 15" alloys, pure silver black no, 57042 miles, £9999, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

## PEUGEOT

**PEUGEOT 306**, R reg, 3-door, 2 lr XSI, Blue, 120 000 miles, MoT, tax, recent cambelt, £1,100 ono. Tel: 07793 862741 (PRIVATE)

**206**, gti, 2002, met blue with black leather, 74508 miles, £4695, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

**306**, 1.4, 1998, met red, 85046 miles, £1995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

**306**, 1998, green, 67509 miles, £1795, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

## PORSCHE

**911 CARRERA** 4, 2002, meridian silver with blue leather, 46000 miles, £34950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

## PROTON

**PERSONA**, 1.5 GLSi Saloon 4d 1468cc auto, s 1999, electric windows, power assisted steering, drivers airbag, sunroof, remote mirrors, radio cassette, green, miles, £1995, Westbrook Cars, Canterbury, 01227 710685 (TRADE)

## RENAULT

**CLIO**, 1.2 5dr Auto, remote central locking, power steering, 33000 miles, £5999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

**CLIO**, Extreme 4 Dynamique 16v 3dr, rear wash/wipe, radio, cd player, air conditioning, electric windows, electric mirrors, alloy wheels, aluminium silver, 16881 miles, £5295, Saunders Abbott, Sidcup, 020 8300 2450 (TRADE)

**CLIO**, 16v, 1993, blue, 125200 miles, £7700, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

**MEGANE**, Scenic Expression 16v 5dr, 303461, remote central locking, immobiliser, cd player, electric windows, power steering, air conditioning, abs, air bag, cloth upholstery, head restraints, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, radio, rear wash/wipe, uk supplied, black, 49000 miles, £5999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

**MEGANE**, Cabriolet 16v, 125461, full leather, power steering, electric windows, power hood, central locking, remote central locking, metallic paintwork, stereo, uk specification, 16" alloys, blue, 80000 miles, £3499, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

## SEAT

**ALHAMBRA**, 2.0 TDI PD Reference 7 Seat 5dr, 120462127, abs, air bag, cd player, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, front fog lamps, ink blue met, 37700 miles, £12499, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

**ALHAMBRA**, SE TDI, power steering, remote alarm, cloth upholstery, air conditioning, head restraints, immobiliser, abs, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, cd player, stereo, uk supplied, aluminium silver, 89000 miles, £5999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

**ALHAMBRA**, 2.0 Tdi Pd Stylet 7 Seat, seat alhambra 2.0 tdi pd stylet 7 seat 5dr hyundai asford drake & fletcher grey, 2006, 18521 miles, manual, diesel, 5 doors, 1 previous owners, grey, £14490, Drake and Fletcher Hyundai, Asford, 0845 389 1214 (TRADE)

## SUBARU

**FORESTER**, 2.0 X, locking wheel nuts, remote alarm, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, centre armrest, head restraints, climate control, cd player, radio, uk specification, uk supplied, 16" alloys, 4x4, dark grey, 10 miles, £12495, Lifestyle Subaru Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 0844 8446514 (TRADE)

## SUZUKI

**WAGON R**, Special, 53/2003, remote central locking, electric windows, electric mirrors, stereo, radio/cd system with removable security fascia, power assisted steering, 5 speed gearbox, driver, metallic blue, 32000 miles, £3550, Kent, 01843 840944 (PRIVATE)

**SUZUKI JIMMY JXL**, 09 2000, 1.2 p auto 4x4 estate red 45 000 miles, £2495, Beaver Commercials, Asford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

**ALTO**, GL, 2005, red, 14970 miles, £3595, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

**ALTO**, 1.1 GL Hatchback 5dr, 04/2004, power assisted steering alloy wheels fog lights cd player full service history 1061cc 16v, met black, 18000 miles, £3, 995, Chertton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

**ALTO**, 1.1 GL Hatchback 5dr, 07/2004, 1061cc 16v power assisted steering central locking full service history, bright red, 29500 miles, £3, 895, Chertton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

**GRAND VITARA**, 09/2003, 1590cc 16v swb 4x4 power assisted steering central locking cd player full service history, met red, 26000 miles, £5, 395, Chertton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

## TVR

**350i TASMIN (WEDGE)**, 1989 (f), tvr 350i convertible, stunning dark met blue coachwork with contrasting cream leather sports trim with blue piping, black mohair soft top, huge ground up nut and bolt restoration with all photo's to prove, no expense spared, big brake conversion, goodrich hoses etc, original service books, ew, em, quality cd hi-fi, alloy wheels, only 3 former keepers. sounds absolutely awesome!! Metallic blue, 70, 000 miles miles, £5495, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

## VAUXHALL

**ASTRA**, 2006, 3x3 point rear seat belts abs alloy wheels drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors front rear restraints space saver spare wheel sports seats steering wheel rake adjustment steering wheel reach adjustment trip computer, star silver, 11402 miles, £10495, WJ King Vauxhall, Dartford, 01322 227581 (TRADE)

**ASTRA**, 2006, 3x3 point rear seat belts abs alloy wheels drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights front head restraints heated door mirrors remote central locking service indicator side airbags space saver spare wheel sports seats steering wheel rake adjustment steering wheel reach adjustment trip computer, ultra blue, 0 miles, £8695, WJ King Vauxhall, Gravesend, 01474 565656 (TRADE)

**ASTRA**, 2007, 3x3 point rear seat belts abs air conditioning alloy alloy wheels cloth seat trim drivers airbag immobiliser isofix child seat anchor points lumbar support pas passenger airbag radio/cd rear service indicator side airbags space saver spare wheel sports seats steering wheel rake adjustment steering wheel reach adjustment traction control trip computer, star silver, 0 miles, £11695, WJ King Vauxhall, Bexleyheath, 020 8303 2299 (TRADE)

## VOLKSWAGEN

**POLO**, FOX, 1992, vw polo fox 92 grey metallic low mileage 38000 great condition new cambelt cd changer reliable runaround full service history mot, met grey, 38318 miles, £550, Sevenoaks Kent, 01732 462536 (PRIVATE)

**BEETLE**, 8v, immobiliser, remote central locking, full leather, centre armrest, heated seats, height adjustable seat, sports seats, adjustable steering column, power steering, stability control, abs, side air bags, twin air bags, colour coded body, auto-dip rearview, electric mirrors, power hood, radio cassette, yellow, 15000 miles, £9990, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)



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## Canterbury branch Michelle t: 01227 454239 e: canterbury@hrgokent.co.uk

Administration & Payroll part-time or full-time	£8.50 p/h	Canterbury	Ref: KOSCA750
Customer Service	£13.5k	Canterbury	Ref: KOS000758
Accounts Assistant	£17k	Whitstable	Ref: KOSCA742
Administration and Project Support	£8 - £10 p/h	Sandwich	Ref: KOSCB27706
Customer Service / Call handler	£6 p/h	Sandwich	Ref: KOSPF001

## Folkestone branch Natalie t: 01303 850729 e: folkestone@hrgokent.co.uk

Night Shift Team Leader	£18k - £25k	Folkestone	Ref: KOSFO627
Sales Admin/Secretary	£18k	Dover	Ref: KOSFO937
Head Chef	£18k	Folkestone	Ref: KOSFO926
Health & Safety Manager	£30k - £40k	Dover	Ref: KOSFO889

## Ramsgate branch Lee-Ann t: 01843 591798 e: ramsgate@hrgokent.co.uk

Part time Customer Services Rep	circa £12k	Thanet	Ref: KOSRA2046
Administrators min 2 yrs exp	£DOE	Thanet	Ref: KOSRA28407
Part Time Animal Technician	£5.71 p/h	Thanet	Ref: KOSRA2687
Trainee Sales Negotiator	£12k	Thanet	Ref: KOSRA2697
Administrators with current CRB check	£DOE	Thanet	Ref: KOSRA12C

Other branches:	Ashford 35 Bank Street Tel: 01233 634242	Bromley 2nd Floor 25 Market Square Tel: 0208 460 8100	Chatham 10 Railway Street Tel: 01634 811494	Dartford 16 Hythe Street Tel: 01322 277555
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With a network of seven branches across Kent, Recruitment company, HR GO Kent Ltd, has many exciting job opportunities to match every individual's needs. For further details on any of the jobs listed or to register please call your local branch.

www.hrgo.co.uk



## Canterbury College

Canterbury College is a leading FE and HE College which offers opportunities and an environment in which our 800 staff and 12,000 learners can reach their potential, so we can achieve our goal of being one of the best Colleges by 2010.

## Estates &amp; Building Services Manager

Salary: £44,149 - £49,875 37 hrs per week  
Post ref: EBSM1Are you experienced in Estates and Building Services Management?  
Do you have the energy and drive to shape the future?

We are seeking an experienced and talented individual to ensure that College sites are fully utilised, maintained and enhanced, to provide an optimum learning and working environment for all users. You will have the opportunity to develop the College's property and accommodation strategies.

You will lead on the preparation of maintenance and small buildings works programmes and schedules, health and safety strategy and policy, and ensure the provision and maintenance of effective fire precautions, security systems and safety arrangements.

You will develop and manage the College's energy management policy, advise on the use of professional services in connection with estates services, and will take responsibility for buildings &amp; grounds maintenance and security for the insurance of the premises and assets.

To be successful, you will have a relevant professional qualification such as RICS, RIBA, MBFM, or MIMechE, as well as professional qualifications in the area of Estates Management. You will be able to demonstrate considerable and successful estates management experience, with experience of managing change, a commitment to continuous improvement as well as having direct experience of line managing staff, budgets and resource management.

For an application pack please visit: www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.  
The closing date for the above post is Wednesday 20 February at 12 noon.  
Interviews will be held on Thursday 28th February 2008.

Canterbury College is an equal opportunity employer

Online Account Advertising Optimiser  
(up to £17,000 doe)

## Holiday Extras

Our People are the heart &amp; soul of our business. They make amazing things happen. We are a Sunday Times Top 100 winner (Best Companies to Work for in UK) for the past 2 years. We are half way through achieving the new Platinum award for Investors in People. Our business is open, informal &amp; an exciting place to work. We are the market leader in selling holiday extras (including airport parking, hotels, theatre and themed breaks) to over 2 million customers.

## The Team

We are a young and exciting team, looking to expand with the growing demand for our services. We are responsible for around 20% of the company's annual revenue. We deal with hundreds of Pay Per Click (PPC) adverts that are viewed by thousands of potential customers. These adverts are the first contact that the potential customer will have with Holiday Extras. It is imperative that these adverts are of the highest quality and convey all the company values as well as the sales message.

SEM (Search Engine Marketing) is the fastest growing industry in the UK and subsequently this is an entry level role within the Online Advertising department, a role that will allow you to develop various online advertising and marketing skills as well as putting you in a good place to demonstrate your abilities and potentially gain promotion.

## The Candidate

## The Requirements:

- Be proficient on computers and able to demonstrate good excel and word processing skills
- Show great attention to detail
- Possess good communication skills
- Have the ability to manage personal workload
- Have the drive and determination to succeed

If you are intelligent, determined and looking to start a career in Online Advertising or Search Marketing - then this is the place for you!!!

## Hours &amp; Salary

Full time, 37.5 hours per week. Worked from Monday - Friday, 9am - 5.30pm, with one hour for lunch.



## Interested?

Send a C.V with covering letter to:  
recruitment@holidayextras.com or by post to  
Recruitment, People Team, Holiday Extras, Newingreen  
Nr Hythe, Kent CT21 4JF Closing date 17-02-08



achievement development experience employability

## Sheppey College

Canterbury College is a leading FE and HE College which offers opportunities and an environment in which our 800 staff and 12,000 learners can reach their potential, so we can achieve our goal of being one of the best Colleges by 2010. To support this, the College has been undergoing a £50 million re-development, which opened in January 2008. We are now developing plans for Phase 3, for completion in 2012.

### Placement Officer – Childcare

18.5 hrs per week, salary starting from £14,464 pro rata per annum.  
Post Ref: SHPO/KOS

### Supply Lecturers are required in the following areas:

#### Administration

Various hours available, salary range £17,729 – £25,420 pro rata per annum.  
Post Ref: SH/Admin/KOS

#### Beauty

Various hours available, salary range £17,729 – £25,420 pro rata per annum.  
Post Ref: SH/Beauty/KOS

#### Hair

Various hours available, salary range £17,729 – £25,420 pro rata per annum.  
Post Ref: SH/Hair/KOS

For an application pack please visit [www.cant-col.ac.uk](http://www.cant-col.ac.uk) or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.  
The closing date for the above posts is Monday 18 February 2008 at 12 noon.

#### Staff benefits include:

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Sports Hall and Gym
- Proximity to Main bus/train Stations
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Close to City Centre
- Staff Discount Scheme

Canterbury College is an equal opportunity employer



achievement development experience employability

## Canterbury College

Canterbury College is a leading FE and HE College which offers opportunities and an environment in which our 800 staff and 12,000 learners can reach their potential, so we can achieve our goal of being one of the best Colleges by 2010. To support this, the College has been undergoing a £50 million re-development, which opened in January 2008. We are now developing plans for Phase 3, for completion in 2012.

### Lecturer Beauty Therapy and Holistic Therapies

37 hrs per week, salary range £17,729 – £25,420 pro rata per annum.  
Post Ref: 02/43/KOS

### Head Chef

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £16,284 per annum.  
Post Ref: HCT/KOS

### Supply Lecturers are required in the following areas:

#### Basic Skills (at Canterbury and Sheppey College)

Various hours available, salary range £17,729 – £25,420 pro rata per annum.  
Post Ref: S/BS/KOS

#### Hairdressing

Various hours available, salary range £17,729 – £25,420 pro rata per annum.  
Post Ref: S/Hair/KOS

#### Health & Social Care

Various hours available, salary range £17,729 – £25,420 pro rata per annum.  
Post Ref: S/HSC/KOS

#### Business

Various hours available, salary range £17,729 – £25,420 pro rata per annum.  
Post Ref: S/BUS/KOS

#### Management & CIPD courses

Various hours available, salary range £17,729 – £25,420 pro rata per annum.  
Post Ref: S/M&CIPD/KOS

#### Accounting

Various hours available, salary range £17,729 – £25,420 pro rata per annum.  
Post Ref: S/AC/KOS

#### Law

Various hours available, salary range £17,729 – £25,420 pro rata per annum.  
Post Ref: S/LAW/KOS

#### ICT and Computing

Various hours available, salary range £17,729 – £25,420 pro rata per annum.  
Post Ref: S/ICT/KOS

For an application pack please visit [www.cant-col.ac.uk](http://www.cant-col.ac.uk) or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.  
The closing date for the above posts is Monday 18 February 2008 at 12 noon.

#### Staff benefits include:

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Sports Hall and Gym
- Proximity to Main bus/train Stations
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Close to City Centre
- Staff Discount Scheme

Canterbury College is an equal opportunity employer



achievement development experience employability

## Canterbury College

Canterbury College is a leading FE and HE College which offers opportunities and an environment in which our 800 staff and 12,000 learners can reach their potential, so we can achieve our goal of being one of the best Colleges by 2010. To support this, the College has been undergoing a £50 million re-development, which opened in January 2008. We are now developing plans for Phase 3, for completion in 2012.

### Supply NVQ Assessors are required in the following areas:

#### Cleaning and Support Services

Various hours available, salary range £17,729 – £25,420 pro rata per annum.  
Post Ref: NVQ/CS/KOS

#### Business Administration, Customer Service & Team Leading

Various hours available, salary range £17,729 – £25,420 pro rata per annum.  
Post Ref: NVQ/BUS/KOS

#### Performance Review Officer

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £23,536 per annum. Interviews to be held on 29th February 2008.  
Post Ref: PRO/KOS

#### Marketing & Communications Assistant

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £14,464 per annum.  
Post Ref: 08/23/KOS

#### Media and Public Relations Officer

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £20,674 per annum.  
Post Ref: 08/24/KOS

#### Publications and Design Officer

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £20,674 per annum.  
Post Ref: 08/25/KOS

#### Temporary Advice and Guidance Co-ordinator

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £20,674 per annum.  
Temporary post not to exceed six months.  
Post Ref: 07/97/KOS

#### Curriculum Support Assistant Construction

18.5 hrs per week, 38 weeks term time. Salary starting from £18,285 pro rata per annum.  
Post Ref: 06/201/KOS

#### Curriculum Support Assistant Plumbing

18.5 hrs per week, 38 weeks term time. Salary starting from £18,285 pro rata per annum.  
Post Ref: 06/202/KOS

#### Temporary Senior Administrator for Work Based Learning

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £18,285 per annum. Temporary post up to 1 May 2009 to cover maternity leave.  
Post Ref: ATC1/KOS

#### Temporary Train to Gain Administrator

18.5 hrs per week, salary starting from £14,464 pro rata per annum. Temporary post up to 16 January 2009 to cover maternity leave.  
Post Ref: 07/83/KOS

#### Full Time Cleaners

2 posts at 37 hrs per week, salary £6.10 per hour.  
Post Ref: 08/21/KOS

#### Night Cleaners

Up to 10 posts at 20 hrs per week, salary £6.10 per hour.  
Post Ref: 08/22/KOS

For an application pack please visit [www.cant-col.ac.uk](http://www.cant-col.ac.uk) or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 18 February 2008 at 12 noon.

#### Staff benefits include:

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Sports Hall and Gym
- Proximity to Main bus/train Stations
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Close to City Centre
- Staff Discount Scheme

Canterbury College is an equal opportunity employer



KCA (UK) is an expanding and vibrant organisation providing a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services. Founded in 1975 and currently employing over 300 paid and unpaid staff, it has an annual income of £11 million and is becoming established as one of the leading service providers in the South East Region.



## REF: 466 - DRUG INTERVENTION PROGRAMME WORKER - DOVER

Salary £18,430 - £26,067 (SCP 21 - 32) - 37 hours per week  
This post carries an Essential Car User Allowance

You will contribute to the provision of the Kent Drug Intervention Programme (DIP) that aims to reduce drug-related crime by engaging with offenders through all stages of the criminal justice system. You will take active steps to contact people who have been referred to KCA by Police, Probation or Prison based services in order to assess them for treatment services relevant to their individual needs and address problems of social exclusion. You will work in collaboration with specialist Prison Drug Services, Prison and Community Probation staff and Police staff to deliver co-ordinated and planned support packages. To meet the challenges of this role you should have previous employment that includes knowledge of working within the criminal justice system and of working with vulnerable people.

These posts are subject to Criminal Records Bureau check at enhanced level and Prison Service security clearance.

Closing Date: 20th February 2008  
Interview Date: 6th March 2008, at KCA Sittingbourne

For application forms contact: KCA (UK), Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT. Telephone 01795 590635, Fax 01795 539351, Email marina@kca.org.uk, website kca.org.uk.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse.  
Charity no: 292824



## WALMER SCIENCE COLLEGE

Salisbury Road, Walmer, Deal, Kent, CT14 7QJ  
Telephone : 01304 375212 Fax : 01304 380766  
e-mail : admin@walmerschool.co.uk  
Headteacher : Simon Heaton BSc (Hons), NPOH  
MIXED 11-18 HIGH SCHOOL 800 ON ROLL

### REQUIRED FOR 21st APRIL 2008 or 1st SEPTEMBER 2008 ASSISANT HEADTEACHER (L11-L15 - Subject to Review)

The main focus of this post will be the use of new technologies across the curriculum to enhance teaching and learning. You will play a significant role in formulating, then implementing the school's vision for ICT as part of the BSF programme. As well as leading on the use of new technologies across the curriculum, you will also be responsible for:

- Line management of a number of departments;
- Line management of the Network Manager;
- KS4 Options Process;
- Production and updating of annual timetable;
- Supporting a Head of House;
- Oversight of the examinations system;
- Other responsibilities to be negotiated.

The successful applicant will:-

- have experience of leading and managing other staff;
- have a clear vision of how new technologies can be used to enhance teaching and learning;
- be a creative teacher with the ability to motivate students of all abilities;
- be enthusiastic and energetic;
- have a commitment to raising standards;
- have a commitment to providing a first class learning experience for all our students.

Applications from all subject areas welcome. Walmer Science College is a good school with outstanding features (Ofsted 2007).

Walmer Science College is committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and the successful applicant will be required to apply for an Enhanced Disclosure via the CRB. For an application form and further details, please contact Mrs Windsor at the school

Closing date : 22nd February 2008



We value diversity in our workforce



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School  
Maidstone Road, Rochester, Kent ME1 3EL  
Tel: 01634 844008

An 11-18 Boys' Grammar School of 1000+ pupils with 300 in the Sixth Form (including 40 girls)

## TEACHER OF HISTORY

Full or part time teacher of History from Easter for 1 term in the first instance.

Ability to offer a second subject would be an advantage. For a suitably qualified candidate a share of A-Level work may be available.

For further details and an application form please contact the Headteacher's PA, Ms Jacqueline Harrison, as soon as possible.

Due to continued expansion we require the following staff to join our successful team:

- **Workshop Mechanic.** Reasonable rates of pay. Full training given. Hours to include evenings and weekends. In the first instance, please send CV to Chris Palmer, Buckmore Park Karting Ltd, Maidstone Rd, Chatham ME5 9QG.



## Public Rights Of Way Officer – Network Management

£19,572 - £29,190 per annum. Salary dependent on experience. Progression through the career grade is based on the fulfilment of required competencies

Kings Hill, West Malling

With over 6,700 km of public rights of way, Kent County Council manages the largest network in the country. It also has an excellent national reputation in service delivery and forward thinking, dynamic new initiatives.

The West Kent Public Rights of Way Team is looking for a new officer to join them to manage the Maidstone area network.

Responsible for a specific geographical area of the county, you will undertake a variety of operational duties particularly in respect to the maintenance and protection of public rights of way. A substantial proportion of the area sits within the Kent Downs area of outstanding natural beauty. You will work closely with landowners, local councils and other agencies. A significant proportion of your workload will come from the general public.

The post carries a high-volume workload. You will be able to juggle numerous competing priorities and adapt readily to the use of new technology. You will be a team player, have a good sense of humour and be educated to HND/Degree level in a related subject. The post also requires a high level of motivation, a good knowledge of rights of way law and practice and related countryside access issues and excellent organisational and communication skills. Ref: ER/08/0005

Interview date: 18th March 2008.

## Day Centre Officer

Starting salary £15,665, with progression through contribution related pay to £20,211 per annum

You will support a group of adults with learning disabilities, in a community gardening project at Cranbrook. Similar projects may be developed in future to cover the High Weald villages, Paddock Wood and Tunbridge Wells.

You will need to have an interest in gardening and be able to work with individuals to develop their gardening skills and travel training as part of promoting their independence and moving on into employment. A knowledge of health and safety and risk assessments is required.

The ability to travel to the rural sites is essential.

You should have experience in supporting people with learning disabilities in the community. An NVQ 3 in care would be an advantage.

This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

We are committed to service user and carer involvement and seek to involve service users and carers in our recruitment processes. Ref: KASS/08/0023

To apply, visit [www.kent.gov.uk/jobs](http://www.kent.gov.uk/jobs) Alternatively, please email [recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk](mailto:recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk), or call 0845 8247 904. Please quote the appropriate reference.

Closing date: 25th February 2008.



A great place to work.  
Our services aren't the same,  
so neither are our people.

[www.kent.gov.uk/jobs](http://www.kent.gov.uk/jobs)



# Opportunities at



## Shared Services Project Managers – Kent and Medway

The Kent Improvement Partnership promotes and facilitates collaboration between the councils in Kent and Medway with the purpose of improving services and value for money for residents.

The partnership's staff are hosted by Canterbury City Council, on behalf of the other Kent and Medway councils. Canterbury City Council is rated an Excellent Council and a Times Best Council To Work For. Terms and conditions include final salary pension scheme plus benefits.

## Project Managers

£50,000 pa ■ Fixed term for two years (with a likely third year, subject to funding)

Kent Improvement Partnership is recruiting two, highly experienced, professional Project Managers to help drive forward a portfolio of key shared service improvement and efficiency activities across Kent and Medway local government.

You will have extensive experience as a project manager, in a public or private sector environment, delivering large, complex, change and improvement projects. Ideally, this should be where a number of organisations have collaborated to share service delivery.

You will have a clear knowledge of, and enthusiasm for, the government's improvement and efficiency agenda and an understanding of its impact on local authorities and their partner organisations.

You will be experienced in Prince2 project management methodologies and will have demonstrated the ability to deliver on time and within budget.

You will have strong interpersonal skills and the confidence to work closely at both Chief Executive/Member level and with project teams of middle managers in councils and partnership organisations.

Please quote job reference: 1760

Closing date for receipt of completed application forms: 12 noon, Friday 29 February 2008

Interviews and assessment process will take place on: Wednesday 19 March 2008

We prefer applications on-line. For further details of this position and all our latest opportunities and to apply on-line, visit our website at [www.canterbury.gov.uk/jobs](http://www.canterbury.gov.uk/jobs) or e-mail [jobs@canterbury.gov.uk](mailto:jobs@canterbury.gov.uk). If you are unable to access the internet, telephone 01227 862 072 (24 hour answerphone).

**We can supply application packs in Braille or large print format if required**

**We are an equal opportunities employer.**

*Putting people first*



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE





## BT Local Business

represented by Utopia Enterprise Solutions Ltd

## Exciting New Opportunity for Desk Based Sales Executive

Basic 14k+£16k OTE commission (total £30k)

### North and East Kent

BT Local Business is a successful venture created by BT to provide complete voice, data and computing solutions, coupled with excellent customer service, to local small and medium sized businesses (SMEs).

Utopia Enterprise Solutions Ltd is the local independently owned BT Local Business formed to manage and grow the substantial existing BT SME customer base in the North and East Kent area.

We are now looking for a successful individual with a proven track record of selling solutions-based IT Services and hardware into the small business environment. A successful candidate will be bright, enthusiastic, very well organised and self motivated. They must also be confident when dealing with customers and will be required to make telephone calls into our extensive customer base.

In return we offer: a basic salary, bonus package, excellent career prospects and comprehensive BT accredited training.

If you would like to be part of this exciting venture, please send covering letter and CV and to:

darren.burton@btlocalbusiness.co.uk  
or call 01732 873 344

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## JobsforKent.co.uk

The smart way to find a job in the County

**Bligh Sure Start Children's Centre**  
Bligh Way, Strood, Rochester, Kent ME2 2XJ  
Phone: 01634 710154  
Email: office@bligh-inf.medway.sch.uk

**Children and Families Service Manager** Ref: EDS/963

Grade PO2. Salary £30,598 – £39,258 per annum, 37 hours per week, 52 weeks per year.

Bligh Sure Start Children's Centre is looking for a special person to complete the leadership team. We wish to appoint a community services manager who can drive forward our vision to ensure that every child is given the very best start in life. You will need to be able to work in partnership with parents and carers and bring together a range of partners and organisations, in order to meet the needs of young children and their families. With a degree or equivalent qualification in health, social work, education, community work or a similar field, you must be able to lead a multi-agency service, inspiring change that will really make a difference to young children and their families. Our Centre is committed to recruiting with care and safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. It expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Any offer of appointment will be subject to a Criminal Records Bureau enhanced disclosure.

For an informal discussion about this exciting opportunity, please call: Celia Toone, Centre Manager on 01634 710154.

For an application pack phone: 01634 710154 or email: office@bligh-inf.medway.sch.uk

Closing date: 15 February, 2008.

**Medway**  
Serving You

**Spires Academy**  
Bredlands Lane  
Sturry  
Canterbury  
Kent CT2 0HD  
NOR: 300  
Head of School: Mrs Lynn Ibeji

T: 01227 710392 F: 01227 712370  
E: office@spiresacademy.com

**... a new approach to learning**

Would you like to train to be a teacher in a supportive environment with excellent facilities and students who want to learn?  
Then you may wish to join us from September 2008 as a

**GRADUATE TRAINEE in**  
**ICT Maths Science**

Spires Academy opened in September 2007 to transform the life chances of students.

**Are you committed to developing learning and raising aspirations?**

The successful candidate will:

- be enthusiastic and motivated to inspire students to learn
- have a creative approach to children's learning
- be a team player
- have excellent organisational and communication skills
- have high standards for themselves and our students

We can offer you a challenging and rewarding career as part of our new Academy as we continue to offer our students the best opportunities and learning resources.

To apply for this position, please forward a letter of application together with a CV quoting ref: GTP101 by email to Marion Wigginton:  
m.wigginton@spiresacademy.com

Closing date: Noon Monday 25th February 2008

**Come and be part of an enthusiastic, caring and dynamic team that supports our new Academy and inspires our community.**

Twin Specialisms: Business & Enterprise and Visual, Creative & Performing Arts

**www.spiresacademy.com**

# MEDWAY TEACHING OPPORTUNITIES



## PRIMARY SCHOOLS

### Teacher

#### Brompton Westbrook

Foundation Teacher  
Salary: MPS/UPS  
Full time and permanent  
Required from: 1 September 2008  
Closing date: 3 March 2008  
**To apply/more information**  
Mrs Claire Knight  
Brompton Westbrook  
Kings Bastion,  
Brompton  
Gillingham  
Kent  
ME7 5DQ  
Telephone - (01634) 844152  
Email heyey002@medway.org.uk

#### Riverside Primary School

Key Stage 1 teacher  
Salary: MPS/UPS  
Full time and permanent  
Required From: 1 September 2008  
Closing date: 15 February 2008  
**To apply/more information**  
School Office  
Riverside Primary School  
St Edmunds Way  
Rainham  
Kent  
ME8 8ET  
Telephone - (01634) 338700  
Email office@riverside.medway.sch.uk

#### Skinner Street Primary School

Year 5 teacher  
Salary: MPS/UPS  
Full Time and temporary  
Term of Contract: Maternity Cover  
Required From: 21 April 2008  
Closing date: 19 February 2008  
**To apply/more information**  
School Office  
Skinner Street Primary School  
Skinner Street  
Gillingham  
Kent  
ME7 1LG  
Telephone - (01634) 850213  
Email office@skinnerst.medway.sch.uk

## SECONDARY SCHOOLS

### Teacher

#### Rainham Mark Grammar School

Teacher of Design Technology - Electronic Products  
Salary: MPS/UPS  
Full Time and permanent  
Required From: 1 September 2008  
Closing date: 14 February 2008  
**To apply/more information**  
School Office  
Rainham Mark Grammar School  
Pump Lane, Gillingham, Kent ME8 7AJ  
Telephone - (01634) 364151  
Email office@rainhammark.medway.sch.uk

#### Chatham Grammar School for Girls

RE teacher  
Salary: MPS/UPS  
Full time and permanent  
Required from: 1 September 2008  
Closing Date: 7 March 2008  
**To apply/more information**  
Emma Chilmald  
Chatham Grammar School for Girls  
Rainham Road  
Chatham, Kent ME5 7EH  
Telephone - (01634) 851262  
Email chile001@medway.org.uk

#### Rainham Mark Grammar School

Teacher of English  
Salary: MPS/UPS  
Full Time and permanent  
Required From: 1 September 2008  
Closing date: 14 February 2008  
**To apply/more information**  
School Office  
Rainham Mark Grammar School  
Pump Lane  
Gillingham, Kent ME8 7AJ  
Telephone - (01634) 364151  
Email office@rainhammark.medway.sch.uk

#### Chatham Grammar School for Girls

Teacher of Design Technology (Textiles)  
Salary: MPS/UPS  
Full Time and permanent  
Required From: 1 September 2008  
Closing date: 15 February 2008

## To apply/more information

The School Office  
Chatham Grammar School for Girls  
Rainham Road  
Chatham  
Kent ME5 7EH  
Telephone - (01634) 851262  
Email chile001@medway.org.uk

#### Sir Joseph Williamson Mathematical School

History Teacher  
Salary: MPS/UPS  
Full time and fixed term  
Contract: 2 Terms  
Required From: 21 April 2008  
**To apply/more information**  
Ms Jacqueline Harrison  
Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School,  
Maidstone Road,  
Rochester,  
Kent ME1 3EL  
Telephone - (01634) 844008  
E-mail harrison@sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk

#### Chatham South

English Teacher  
Salary: MPS/UPS  
Full Time and Permanent  
Required From: 1 September 2008  
Closing Date: 25 February 2008  
**To apply/more information**  
Maureen Chipperfield  
Chatham South  
Letchworth Avenue  
Chatham  
Kent ME4 6NT  
Telephone - (01634) 404277  
Email chipm002@medway.org.uk

## The Hundred of Hoo

Teacher of English  
Job Ref: Eteach/kmc/010208/eng  
Salary: MPS/UPS  
Full Time and Permanent  
Required from: April or September 2008  
Closing date: 25 February 2008  
**To apply/more information**  
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The Hundred of Hoo  
Comprehensive School  
Main Road  
Hoo, Rochester  
Kent ME3 9HH  
Telephone - (01634) 251443  
Email crutk001@medway.org.uk

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Teacher of Geography  
Job Ref: Eteach/kmc/geog/010208  
Salary: MPS/UPS  
Full Time and Permanent  
Required from: April or September 2008  
Closing date: 25 February 2008  
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Eteach/kmc/ICT  
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Email crutk001@medway.org.uk

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Eteach/kmc/sci/010208  
Salary: MPS/UPS  
Full Time and Permanent

Required from: April or September 2008  
Closing date: 25 February 2008  
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Closing date: 25 February 2008  
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Required from: April or September 2008  
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Comprehensive School  
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Required from: April or September 2008  
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ONE of Europe's biggest corrugated packaging plants is being created by linking up two next-door paper mills in a deal worth about £104 million.

DS Smith, the international packaging giant and office products wholesaler, which owns one of the mills at Kemsley, near Sittingbourne, is taking over the other, owned by M-real Corporation, part of the Finnish forestry industry giant Metsäliitto Group.

DS Smith's St Regis business employs 270 at its mill, and M-real employs 282 at the New Thames office paper mill.

The financial side of the deal is made up of £60 million cash, pension payment of £7 million, and about a further £37 million to modify production for high-quality lightweight recycled CCM from next January.

### Take up the challenge

THE deadline for entries to the Kent Innovation Challenge – and your chance to grab £20,000 – is fast approaching.

The challenge is open to entrepreneurs and businesses with an innovative product or service, but entries must be received by Monday, February 18. See [www.kentinovationchallenge.co.uk](http://www.kentinovationchallenge.co.uk).

Among the many prizes are: free rent for a year at one of the three enterprise hubs in Kent and filming and production of a video to the value of £5,000.

## VIEW THIS CLIP ON

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**Your LOCAL TV ONLINE**



Discover how business is booming in Kent's potato capital of Thanet

# Petrol pricing: it's still a taxing issue

■ BY TONY PATEY

THE Tunbridge Wells-based Freight Transport Association says customers buying petrol or diesel should be told how much tax they are paying in the process – buying 50 litres at the pumps costs £20 in fuel and a staggering £33 in tax.

The FTA would like to see fuel receipts issued at filling stations detailing the price of the petrol or diesel itself, the fuel duty and the VAT.

The association says the Government's proposed increase in fuel duty of 2p per litre on April 1 should be scrapped and that users should be absolutely clear about the extent of the tax which they are already paying.

The FTA, which represents the transport interests of companies operating more than 220,000 goods vehicles, says the increasing cost of oil, and the huge taxes which are added to it in the UK, impacts on the whole population and is inflationary because everything we use or consume is at some stage transported by road.

The FTA's director of external affairs, Geoff Dossetter, said there should be absolute clarity about the tax element in fuel prices: "With fuel duty at 50.35p per litre and VAT at 17.5 per cent, the cost of a typical fill of 50 litres of fuel at £1.05 per litre works out at £52.50.

"This consists of £19.51 for the fuel, £25.17 for the fuel duty and £7.82 for the VAT. So, for 50 litres at the pump, we pay £19.51 for the fuel plus an eye-watering £32.99 in taxation."

The planned 2p per litre increase comes on top of a 19 per cent, or 14p per litre, increase in the last 12 months.

A third of the operating costs of the heaviest lorries is fuel, and the annual fuel bill for a single 40-tonne artic has increased from £26,456 at the beginning of 2000 to £37,461 in 2007.



**NOT SMILING:** For every 50 litres of fuel we buy at the pump a massive £33 of the bill goes towards tax

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**TIGHT:** Lee Minshull had Rams' best chance in a first half dominated by the defence

## Draw leaves Ramsgate's run intact

### FOOTBALL

#### Ramsgate 0 Harlow Town 0

youth player at QPR, Wimbledon and West Ham.

While the two new players arrived at Southwood in the week, another departed as midfielder Michael Phillips joined fellow Ryman Premier side Tonbridge Angels and was on the bench for their 3-2 win against Margate at the weekend.

A win for Ramsgate on Saturday would have put them back in the play-offs and within a point of second place, but they were unable to over-

come a stubborn Harlow defence.

Lee Minshull had Ramsgate's best effort of a first half in which both defences had the upper hand.

A stern talk from Ward at half-time saw Rams come out looking to take the initiative and in the 54th minute a Dan Dolton free-kick dropped to Olly Schulz, but his effort went wide.

Ramsgate looked to have nicked the win in stoppage time as Piper, who came on as a substitute, almost scored – but he was denied by a good stop from Michael Dumoulin.

• **Ramsgate were in action against Tooting & Mitcham in the Isthmian Cup last night. For a full match report, visit [www.yourthanet.co.uk](http://www.yourthanet.co.uk).**

## Massive turnout for children's race

A RECORD 770 children from 31 schools took part in the second of this year's Thanet Primary Schools Cross-Country League meetings at St Saviour's Junior School on Saturday.

A crowd of about 2,000 people watched the events as once again it was Upton who led the way with three gold, four silver and five bronze medals.

However, the breadth of talent across the isle was demonstrated with 10 schools represented in the medals table.

Medals were presented by Dave Debbling and Roy Davies of the Co-operative Group, which had donated a bottle of mineral water for every child.

### VIEW THIS CLIP ON

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**Your LOCAL TV ONLINE**



Adam Miller on how the Gills are dealing with the club's slump in form

## Ville win keeps second place

### HOCKEY

CLIFTONVILLE LADIES consolidated their second position in Kent Women's Outdoor Division One with a 3-1 win over Burnt Ash.

The Thanet side scored after five minutes when Jen Chapman put Chris Russell through and she made no mistake to put her side in the lead.

Ash hit back with a goal as Ville were caught not playing to the whistle.

However, Ville didn't lose their heads, and on half-time a good penalty corner allowed Allyson Conway to score.

Ville needed to stay calm and focused for the second half as Ash weren't going to go down without a fight.

Some dogged defending was required as Ash had a series of penalty corners requiring some good running out from Kerry Constantine and great saves from player of the match Sharon Pryce.

Ville's third came from a penalty corner, Toni Lawrence scoring after a strike to the back post from Tracey Ballard.



**OPPORTUNITY:** Youngsters in the isle are being urged to take part in any of the 21 sports available as part of the Kent School Games that will be held this year

# Children invited to join the Kent School Games

### KENT SCHOOL GAMES

BY GLENN PEARSON

WITH the 2012 Olympics on the horizon, Kent has launched a new school games competition to encourage as many young people as possible to enjoy participating in sport.

The idea of the games is to create a long-term legacy for Kent from the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games by helping youngsters to appreciate the benefits of taking part in regular sports activities.

Pupils from across the county are being urged to take part and represent their district in the Kent School Games.

The Thanet School Sport Partnership (TSSP) and Ursuline College are organising the local heats and area competitions taking place across the district up until June 2008, in which 21 sports will be played.

The TSSP school sport co-ordinators are organising most of the primary school events, including Tri Golf, Hi 5 Netball and Sportstacking.

Graham Gayton, a retired Thanet district

cricket development officer, has volunteered to organise a Kwik Cricket festival in which the winner will go to the Kent School Games event.

Likewise, some of the athletics events will be supported by Thanet Roadrunners AC and basketball will be run by community sport coach and Kent Crusaders boss Mads Olsen.

Ursuline College, as Thanet's sports specialist college and host of the partnership, is organising the secondary school events.

Merv Davey, director of sport, has been in contact with schools which are willing to host trials for sports where teams will need to be selected.

King Ethelbert School is to host girls' football trials, Chatham House is hosting the hockey trials, Ellington School the badminton trials, Charles Dickens the swimming trials, Dane Court the tennis trials, The Marlowe Academy

is co-ordinating the athletics, and Ursuline College is hosting the table-tennis, basketball and volleyball trials.

A number of sports clubs across Thanet are being invited to support the preparation of teams representing Thanet at the games.

Hilary Farmiloe, of the TSSP, is excited by the opportunities that the events offer young people in the district to take part in large-scale, mass-participation events.

She said: "It can only enthuse our young people to continue to participate and take on healthier lifestyles."

"The sports are so varied that there is nearly something there for everyone and the partnership will do its utmost to allow all Thanet's school pupils the opportunity to take part in local competitions and trials so they have the chance to compete in the Kent School Games."

"A great opportunity exists in disabled sports, as well, and Chris Gunn from Thanet council is working closely with us to ensure students from our special schools get a chance to compete as well."





Pictorial: GOR KIPRO

**EQUALISER:** Former Angels midfielder Ryan Martin drew his side level on Saturday, but it was not enough to earn Margate a point as their play-off ambitions were severely dented

# Angels batter Gate's promotion dreams

A SECOND defeat in two games has severely hit Margate's promotion hopes as they now sit five points behind the play-off places in the Ryman Premier League.

Penalties in each half from Angels' big-money signing Carl Rook, together with a good finish from Fraser Logan in the first period, did the damage.

Jay Saunders's injury-time goal after Ryan Martin's first-half equaliser was no more than a consolation effort.

Margate were without striker Rob Haworth, who was suspended, so Charley Side started up front with leading scorer James Pinnock.

## FOOTBALL

■ BY YOURTHANET REPORTER

### Tonbridge Angels 3 Margate 2

Former Angel Martin switched to the right side of midfield, with Jimmy Jackson back in his more familiar left midfield role, and Dean Standen made a return to partner Steve McKimm in the midfield.

Two weeks ago the Blues were in the play-off spots and manager Robin Trott acknowledged their future was in their own hands. After back-to-back defeats, however, Trott must now

hope his side can go on a long unbeaten run to the end of the season if they are to stand any chance of the play-off lottery in May.

Player boss McKimm said: "We gave away a sloppy goal to start with and we're not very happy. Then we got ourselves back into it and the ascendancy was with us until they got another goal.

"When they scored we stopped doing what we're good at. And it allowed them to put pressure back on us.

"If we'd have done our job better, we'd have got three points."

• Gate are next in action on Saturday at Hartsdown Park against second-placed Staines Town.

yourthanet  
**MARGATE FC**



Margate chairman Malcolm Rowlett tells Yourthanet his plans for the future of the club and Hartsdown Park

## Hartsdown key to Blues' route out of non-league

THE development of Hartsdown Park has begun, but the ground is just part of the plan to take Margate beyond Conference football.

Chairman Malcolm Rowlett has told Yourthanet that the rebuilding of Hartsdown is an integral part in building a future for the Blues.

"It is vital for a club like Margate to have a stadium like Hartsdown Park," he said. "We hope when it is finished it will be able to hold at least 5,000 fans. We have completed the first phase of our development programme with the completion of the five-a-side centre.

"Now we have just got to get the infrastructure built, which includes changing rooms, a clubhouse and a restaurant and bar.

"We had to leave Hartsdown Park in 2005 when preliminary work was being carried out. In that time we had to share with Ashford Town and Dover Athletic, which was a real problem because most of the club's income comes from gate receipts.

"When you share a ground with another club, a large sum of money has to go to them. It makes it hard to move forward.

"We have eyes on progressing beyond the Conference and with this stadium, once it is finished, we will have the perfect venue.

"We have had a good season so far. A place in the play-offs is still a realistic target for us and being unbeaten in January really helped us. The main problem has been the injuries, which have hit us hard this year."

## Do you play an unusual sport?

YOURTHANET is looking to feature non-mainstream sports for its sister TV channel, Yourkenttv.co.uk.

Last week the KOS Media sports reporters visited a handball team to try out a new emerging sport in the county.

To see them in action, view the video clip below.

If you think your club should be covered, contact the sports team on sports@kosmedia.co.uk to tell us why.

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Your LOCAL TV ONLINE



KOS sports team find out about the emergence of handball in Kent



Pictorial: GOR KIPRO

# Confidence battered as visitors run in a century

THE Wanderers were hardly expected to beat the runaway league leaders at St Peter's, but this crushing defeat will have knocked the players' confidence as they fight to stay in London One.

Thanet knew they were going to be in for a tough ride, but with a number of changes due to unavailability, their task was made even harder. Despite this, as always, Thanet players put in a 100 per cent performance, only to be overwhelmed by Richmond's all-round superiority.

Denying Thanet any solid possession throughout the game enabled the champions-elect to control the game.

Richmond started the game as they meant to go on, opening the scoring in the first five minutes. The leaders then went on to score another seven tries in the first half, five of which were converted.

Thanet's only score of the game came from Tom Ash after Peter Macaulay's pass left him with open space to run through, leaving the Richmond defence in his wake. Tom Longdon

## RUGBY

### Thanet 7 Richmond 100

was successful with his conversion attempt, leaving the half-time score 7-52.

Thanet started the second half strongly as a break from Ash moved the play 70 metres up the field, deep into the visitors' 22 as Dan Shepperton waited patiently on his wing for the ball, only for the final pass to go astray.

Richmond went on to run in a further eight unanswered tries in the second half, four of which were converted. The win put Richmond firmly at the top of the table.

One of the highlights for Thanet supporters was seeing Ben Massey back in action, having fully recovered from the broken cheekbone he suffered just before Christmas.

Returning to first-team rugby at scrum-half as a replacement for Pieter Slabbert, Joe Browne continually attempted to provide the platform for his three-quarters, but Richmond were able to snuff out any potential attacks.

**LONE SCORER:** Tom Ash touched down Thanet's only try



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*...not just an estate agent*

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